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ABSTRACT

In 1990, the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) included a Trial State Assessment (TSA); for the first time in NAEP's history, voluntary state-by-state assessments were made. In 1994, TSA was expanded to include non-public school students. The 1994 reading assessment considered students' proficiency in situations that involved reading different kinds of materials for different purposes. The fourth-grade assessment measured two global purposes for reading--reading for literary experience and reading to gain information. In Wisconsin, 2,331 students in 91 public schools were assessed. This report describes the reading proficiency of Wisconsin fourth-graders and compares their overall performance to students in the Central region of the United States and the nation (using data from the NAEP national assessments). The distribution of reading results and reading achievement level results are provided for subpopulations of students (race/ethnicity, type of location, parents, educational level, and gender). To provide a context for the assessment data, participating public school students, their reading teachers, and principals completed questionnaires which focused on: policies and practices related to reading (time for instructional activities and instructional resources for reading); delivery of reading instruction (instructional materials and activities, workbooks/ worksheets/writing, discussion and group activities, time to read, reading and use of libraries, assessing progress in reading); reading instructors (preparation, experience and professional development); students' home support for literacy (reading outside of school and in the home and hours of television watched per day). The average reading proficiency of fourth-grade public school students in Wisconsin on the NAEP reading scale was 224 compared to 212 nationwide. (SR)

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NAEP 1994 READING STATE REPORT
FOR WISCONSIN

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NAEP 1994 READING STATE REPORT

for

WISCONSIN

December 1995

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U.S. Department of Education

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with the National Center for Education Statistics

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 1988, Congress passed legislation for the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) that continued its primary mission of providing dependable and comprehensive information about educational progress in the United States. In addition, for the first time in the project's history, the legislation also included a provision authorizing voluntary state-by-state assessments on a trial basis.

As a result of the legislation, the 1990 NAEP program included a Trial State Assessment Program in which public-school students in 37 states, the District of Columbia, and two territories were assessed in eighth-grade mathematics. The 1992 NAEP program included an expanded Trial State Assessment Program in fourth-grade reading and fourth- and eighth-grade mathematics, with public-school students assessed in 41 states, the District of Columbia, and two territories.[2]

The continuation of NAEP's Trial State Assessment Program in 1994 was authorized by additional legislation that enlarged the state-by-state assessment to include non-public school students. In addition to the state assessment program in reading at grade 4, the 1994 NAEP involved national assessments of reading, world geography, and U.S. history at grades 4, 8, and 12. The 1994 Trial State Assessment Program was conducted in February 1994 with 44 participants (41 states, the District of Columbia, Guam, and the Department of Defense Education Activity [DoDEA] Overseas Schools).

This computer-generated report describes the reading proficiency of fourth-grade public school students in Wisconsin, the Central region, and the nation. The distribution of reading proficiency results and reading achievement level results are provided for groups of students defined by shared characteristics: race/ethnicity, type of location, parents' education level, and gender. Contextual information about reading policies, instruction, and home support for reading is presented for public school students. State results are based on the representative sample of students who participated in the 1994 Trial State Reading Assessment Program. Results for the region and the nation are based on the regional and national representative samples of students who participated in the national NAEP assessment.

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[1] For a summary of the 1990 program, see Ina V.S. Mullis, John A. Dossey, Eugene H. Owen, and Gary W. Phillips, *The State of Mathematics Achievement: NAEP's 1990 Assessment of the Nation and the Trial Assessment of the States* (Washington, DC: National Center for Education Statistics, 1991).

[2] For a summary of the 1992 assessment of reading, see Ina V.S. Mullis, Jay R. Campbell, and Alan E. Farstrup, *The NAEP 1992 Reading Report Card for the Nation and the States* (Washington, DC: National Center for Education Statistics, 1993). For a summary of the 1992 assessment of mathematics, see Ina V.S. Mullis, John A. Dossey, Eugene H. Owen, and Gary W. Phillips, *NAEP 1992 Mathematics Report Card for the Nation and the States* (Washington, DC: National Center for Education Statistics, 1993).

School and Student Participation in the Reading Assessment

In Wisconsin, 91 public schools participated in the 1994 fourth-grade reading assessment. This number includes participating substitute schools that were selected to replace some of the nonparticipating schools from the original sample. The weighted **school** participation rate after substitution in 1994 was 86 percent for public schools, which means that the fourth-grade students in this sample were **directly** representative of 86 percent of all the fourth-grade public school students in Wisconsin.

In Wisconsin, 2,331 public school fourth-grade students were assessed in 1994. The weighted **student** participation rate was 96 percent for public schools. This means that the sample of fourth-grade students who took part in the assessment was **directly** representative of 96 percent of the **eligible** public school student population in **participating** schools in Wisconsin (that is, all students from the population represented by the participating schools, minus those students excluded from the assessment).

The **overall** weighted response rate (school rate times student rate) was 82 percent for public schools. This means that the sample of students who participated in the assessment was **directly** representative of 82 percent of the eligible fourth-grade public school population in Wisconsin.

Following standard practice in survey research, the results presented in this report were produced using calculations which incorporate adjustments for the nonparticipating schools and students. Hence, the final results derived from the sample provide estimates of the reading proficiency and achievement for the **full** population of eligible public school fourth-grade students in Wisconsin. However, these nonparticipation adjustments may not adequately compensate for the missing sample schools and students in instances where nonparticipation rates are large.

In order to guard against potential nonparticipation bias in published results, NCES has established minimum participation levels necessary for the publication of 1994 Trial State Assessment results. NCES also established additional guidelines that address four ways in which nonparticipation bias could be introduced into a jurisdiction's published results (see Appendix A). In 1994, Wisconsin failed to meet minimum participation rate guidelines for non-public schools. Hence, only public school results are included in this report. However, Wisconsin failed to meet one or more of the other NCES participation rate guidelines. Wisconsin's weighted participation rate for the initial sample of public schools was below 85 percent and the weighted school participation rate after substitution was below 90 percent (see Appendix A).

Students' Reading Performance

The table below shows the distribution of reading proficiency of fourth-grade students attending public schools in Wisconsin, the Central region, and the nation.

1994, Public School Students

The average reading proficiency of fourth-grade public school students in Wisconsin on the NAEP reading scale was 224. This average was higher than that of students across the nation (212).[3] The lowest performing 10 percent of public school fourth graders in Wisconsin had proficiencies at or below 183 while the top 10 percent had proficiencies at or above 263. In public schools across the nation, the lowest performing 10 percent of fourth graders had proficiencies at or below 156; the top performing 10 percent of students had proficiencies at or above 261.

1992 vs 1994, Public School Students

There was no significant change in the average performance of fourth-grade public school students in Wisconsin from 1992 to 1994 (224 in 1992 and 224 in 1994). During the same period, there was no significant change in the average performance of fourth-grade public school students across the nation (215 in 1992 and 212 in 1994).

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1994 Trial State Assessment

Distribution of Reading Proficiency for Fourth-Grade Public School Students

	Average Proficiency	10th Percentile	25th Percentile	50th Percentile	75th Percentile	90th Percentile
1992						
Wisconsin	224 (1.0)	184 (2.0)	204 (1.2)	225 (1.1)	245 (0.8)	261 (0.9)
Central	218 (1.5)	172 (3.7)	196 (2.4)	221 (1.9)	241 (2.5)	260 (3.7)
Nation	215 (1.0)	168 (1.9)	192 (1.0)	217 (1.7)	240 (1.3)	259 (2.3)
1994						
Wisconsin	224 (1.1)	183 (2.0)	204 (1.4)	226 (1.4)	246 (1.7)	263 (1.3)
Central	218 (2.7)	166 (4.6)	195 (3.9)	223 (3.3)	245 (2.7)	264 (2.9)
Nation	212 (1.1)	156 (2.1) <	187 (1.5) <	217 (1.2)	241 (1.2)	261 (1.5)

The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500. The standard errors of the statistics appear in parentheses. It can be said with about 95 percent confidence that, for each population of interest, the value for the entire population is within ± 2 standard errors of the estimate for the sample. In comparing two estimates, one must use the standard error of the difference (see Appendix A for details). If the notation > (<) appears, it signifies that the value for public school students in 1994 was significantly higher (lower) than the value for 1992 at about the 95 percent confidence level.

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[3] Differences reported as significant are statistically different at the 95 percent confidence level. This means that with 95 percent confidence there is a real difference in the average reading proficiency between the two populations of interest.

Performance According to Purpose for Reading

The 1994 Trial State Assessment Program considered students' performance in situations that involved reading different kinds of materials for different purposes. The fourth-grade reading assessment measured two global purposes for reading — **reading for literary experience** and **reading to gain information**. The table below provides results for Wisconsin, the Central region, and the nation according to each reading purpose.

1994, Public School Students

The proficiency of public school students in Wisconsin in reading for literary experience (225) was higher than that of students across the nation (214). Similarly, in reading to gain information, the proficiency of public school students in Wisconsin (223) was higher than that of students across the nation (210).

1992 vs 1994, Public School Students

Wisconsin's public school fourth graders showed no significant change from 1992 to 1994 in reading for literary experience. Similarly, in reading to gain information, public school fourth graders in Wisconsin exhibited no significant change from 1992 to 1994.

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1994 Trial State Assessment

Distribution of Reading Proficiency for Fourth-Grade Public School Students According to Purpose for Reading

	Average Proficiency	10th Percentile	25th Percentile	50th Percentile	75th Percentile	90th Percentile
Reading for Literary Experience						
1992 Public						
Wisconsin	226 (1.1)	185 (1.9)	206 (1.3)	228 (2.2)	248 (1.2)	264 (1.5)
Central	219 (1.7)	172 (4.1)	197 (1.8)	221 (2.6)	243 (2.3)	262 (3.3)
Nation	217 (1.0)	169 (1.7)	194 (1.2)	219 (1.1)	242 (1.3)	262 (1.6)
1994 Public						
Wisconsin	225 (1.3)	183 (2.9)	204 (1.1)	227 (1.3)	247 (1.0)	264 (1.1)
Central	221 (2.8)	167 (5.8)	197 (4.0)	225 (2.5)	249 (2.3)	267 (2.7)
Nation	214 (1.2)	157 (2.2) <	189 (1.6)	219 (1.1)	244 (1.2)	264 (1.3)
Reading to Gain Information						
1992 Public						
Wisconsin	221 (1.0)	178 (2.1)	199 (1.5)	222 (1.6)	243 (1.0)	262 (1.4)
Central	216 (1.7)	168 (8.2)	193 (4.4)	219 (2.2)	241 (2.6)	260 (2.5)
Nation	212 (1.2)	162 (1.8)	187 (1.4)	214 (1.2)	238 (1.3)	259 (1.9)
1994 Public						
Wisconsin	223 (1.4)	178 (3.1)	201 (1.8)	226 (1.4)	248 (1.5)	265 (1.3)
Central	215 (2.9)	160 (9.6)	191 (3.3)	219 (2.7)	243 (2.9)	264 (1.9)
Nation	210 (1.2)	151 (2.0) <	183 (1.4)	214 (1.5)	240 (1.5)	262 (1.4)

The NAEP "purpose for reading" scales range from 0 to 500. The standard errors of the statistics appear in parentheses. It can be said with about 95 percent confidence that, for each population of interest, the value for the entire population is within ± 2 standard errors of the estimate for the sample. In comparing two estimates, one must use the standard error of the difference (see Appendix A for details). If the notation > (<) appears, it signifies that the value for public school students in 1994 was significantly higher (lower) than the value for 1992 at about the 95 percent confidence level.

Levels of Reading Achievement

The most recent reauthorization of the National Assessment Governing Board (NAGB) continues the Board's responsibilities to set policy for NAEP and to "develop appropriate student achievement levels for each age and grade in subject areas tested" (Pub. L. 103-382).

NAGB developed three achievement levels for each grade — Basic, Proficient, and Advanced. Performance at the Basic level denotes partial mastery of the knowledge and skills that are fundamental for proficient work at each grade level. The central level, called Proficient, represents solid academic performance at each grade level tested. Students reaching this level demonstrate competency over challenging subject matter and are well prepared for the next level of schooling. Performance at the Advanced level signifies superior performance at the grade tested. Definitions of the three levels of reading achievement are given below. Chapter 3 provides further elaboration of these levels and presents examples of types of questions that students at each of the three achievement levels can respond to effectively.

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1994 Trial State Assessment

Description of Fourth-Grade Reading Achievement Levels

Achievement Level	Scale Cutpoint	Description
ADVANCED	268	Fourth-grade students performing at the ***Advanced level*** **should be able to generalize about topics in the reading selection and demonstrate an awareness of how authors compose and use literary devices.** When reading text appropriate to fourth grade, they **should be able to judge texts critically and, in general, give thorough answers that indicate careful thought.**
PROFICIENT	238	Fourth-grade students performing at the ***Proficient level*** **should be able to demonstrate an overall understanding of the text, providing inferential as well as literal information.** When reading text appropriate to fourth grade, **they should be able to extend the ideas in the text by making inferences, drawing conclusions, and making connections to their own experiences. The connection between the text and what the student infers should be clear.**
BASIC	208	Fourth-grade students performing at the ***Basic level*** **should demonstrate an understanding of the overall meaning of what they read.** When reading texts appropriate for fourth graders, **they should be able to make relatively obvious connections between the text and their own experiences.**

The table below provides the percentage of fourth-grade students at or above each achievement level, as well as the percentage of students below the Basic level.

1994, Public School Students

The percentage of public school students in Wisconsin who were at or above the Proficient level (35 percent) was higher than that of students across the nation (28 percent).

1992 vs 1994, Public School Students

From 1992 to 1994, there was no significant change in the percentage of public school students in Wisconsin who attained the Proficient level (33 percent in 1992 and 35 percent in 1994). Similarly, there was no significant change in the percentage of public school students across the nation who attained the Proficient level (27 percent in 1992 and 28 percent in 1994).

Levels of Fourth-Grade Public School Students' Reading Achievement

	At or Above Advanced	At or Above Proficient	At or Above Basic	Below Basic
	Percentage			
1992 Public				
Wisconsin	6 (0.6)	33 (1.3)	71 (1.3)	29 (1.3)
Central	6 (1.2)	29 (2.4)	65 (1.9)	35 (1.9)
Nation	6 (0.6)	27 (1.3)	60 (1.1)	40 (1.1)
1994 Public				
Wisconsin	7 (0.7)	35 (1.6)	71 (1.6)	29 (1.6)
Central	7 (1.4)	33 (2.8)	65 (3.0)	35 (3.0)
Nation	7 (0.7)	28 (1.2)	59 (1.1)	41 (1.1)

The standard errors of the statistics appear in parentheses. It can be said with about 95 percent confidence that, for each population of interest, the value for the entire population is within ± 2 standard errors of the estimate for the sample. In comparing two estimates, one must use the standard error of the difference (see Appendix A for details). If the notation > (<) appears, it signifies that the value for public school students in 1994 was significantly higher (lower) than the value for 1992 at about the 95 percent confidence level.

Subpopulation Performance

Assessment results repeatedly show differences in performance for subpopulations of students.[2] The 1994 Trial State Assessment provides additional information about the performance of important subpopulations by reporting on the reading proficiencies of various subgroups of the public school student population defined by race/ethnicity, type of location, parents' education level, and gender. These results are summarized in the table on page 8.

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[2] Ina V.S. Mullis, John A. Dossey, Jay R. Campbell, Claudia A. Gentile, Christine O'Sullivan, and Andrew S. Latham, *NAEP 1992 Trends in Academic Progress* (Washington, DC: National Center for Education Statistics, 1994).

Race/Ethnicity

1994, Public School Students. The average reading proficiency of White students in Wisconsin public schools was higher than that of Black and Hispanic students.

1992 vs 1994, Public School Students. There was no significant change in the average reading proficiency of White, Black, or Hispanic public school students in Wisconsin from 1992 to 1994.

Type of Location

1994, Public School Students. The average reading proficiency of Wisconsin students attending public schools in central cities was not significantly different from that of students in urban fringe/large towns and rural areas/small towns.

1992 vs 1994, Public School Students. From 1992 to 1994, there was no significant change in the average reading proficiency of students attending public schools in central cities, urban fringe/large towns, or rural areas/small towns in Wisconsin.

Parents' Education Level

1994, Public School Students. Public school students in Wisconsin reporting that at least one parent graduated from college demonstrated an average reading proficiency which did not differ significantly from that of students who reported that at least one parent had some education after high school but was higher than that of students who reported that at least one parent graduated from high school, neither parent graduated from high school, or they did not know their parents' education level.

1992 vs 1994, Public School Students. The average proficiency of public school students in Wisconsin who reported that at least one parent graduated from college, at least one parent had some education after high school, at least one parent graduated from high school, neither parent graduated from high school, or they did not know their parents' education level did not change significantly between 1992 and 1994.

Gender

1994, Public School Students. In public schools in Wisconsin, girls exhibited an average reading proficiency which was higher than that of boys.

1992 vs 1994, Public School Students. In Wisconsin public schools, the average reading proficiency for boys did not change significantly from 1992 to 1994. Similarly, the average proficiency for girls did not change significantly from 1992 to 1994.

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1994 Trial State Assessment

Fourth-Grade Public School Students' Average Reading Proficiency by Subpopulation

		1992	1994
		Proficiency	
RACE/ETHNICITY			
White	Wisconsin	227 (1.0)	228 (1.1)
	Central	224 (1.8)	225 (2.8)
	Nation	223 (1.3)	223 (1.3)
Black	Wisconsin	200 (2.4)	197 (3.5)
	Central	187 (3.3)	182 (6.4)
	Nation	192 (1.6)	186 (1.7) <
Hispanic	Wisconsin	210 (3.3)	203 (4.3)
	Central	209 (4.7)	199 (6.7)
	Nation	199 (2.2)	188 (2.7) <
TYPE OF LOCATION *			
Central City	Wisconsin	222 (2.1)	221 (2.4)
	Nation	207 (1.5)	203 (2.4)
Urb Fringe/Lrg Town	Wisconsin	225 (1.6)	226 (1.7)
	Nation	219 (2.2)	219 (1.9)
Rural/Small Town	Wisconsin	224 (1.8)	226 (1.5)
	Nation	217 (2.5)	213 (1.8)
PARENTS' EDUCATION			
College graduate	Wisconsin	231 (1.6)	233 (1.6)
	Central	223 (2.6)	226 (3.0)
	Nation	223 (1.6)	222 (1.4)
Some educ after HS	Wisconsin	232 (1.9)	228 (2.5)
	Central	224 (4.0)	221 (5.1)
	Nation	221 (2.4)	222 (2.2)
HS graduate	Wisconsin	219 (1.4)	223 (2.5)
	Central	214 (3.7)	215 (4.0)
	Nation	211 (1.8)	206 (1.9)
HS non-graduate	Wisconsin	212 (3.8)	212 (4.1)
	Central	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)
	Nation	197 (2.7)	188 (3.5)
I don't know	Wisconsin	217 (1.5)	217 (1.5)
	Central	213 (2.1)	210 (3.2)
	Nation	209 (1.3)	204 (1.3)
GENDER			
Male	Wisconsin	221 (1.2)	221 (1.2)
	Central	216 (1.6)	212 (2.6)
	Nation	211 (1.3)	207 (1.3)
Female	Wisconsin	226 (1.2)	227 (1.5)
	Central	220 (2.4)	225 (3.0)
	Nation	219 (1.1)	218 (1.2)

* School sample size is insufficient to permit reliable regional results for type of location.

The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500. The standard errors of the statistics appear in parentheses. It can be said with about 95 percent confidence that, for each population of interest, the value for the entire population is within ± 2 standard errors of the estimate for the sample. In comparing two estimates, one must use the standard error of the difference (see Appendix A for details). If the notation > (<) appears, it signifies that the value for public school students in 1994 was significantly higher (lower) than the value for 1992 at about the 95 percent confidence level. *** Sample size is insufficient to permit a reliable estimate.

A Context for Understanding Students' Reading Proficiency in Public Schools

Information on the reading performance of students in Wisconsin can be better understood and used for improving instruction and setting policy when supplemented with contextual information about schools, teachers, and students.

To gather contextual information, the fourth-grade students participating in the 1994 Trial State Assessment, their reading teachers, and the principals or other administrators in their schools were asked to complete questionnaires on policies, instruction, and programs. The student, teacher, and school data help to describe some of the current practices and emphases in reading education, illuminate some of the factors that appear to be related to fourth-grade public-school students' reading proficiency, and provide an educational context for understanding information on student achievement. Highlights of the results for the public-school students in Wisconsin are as follows:

CURRICULUM COVERAGE AND INSTRUCTIONAL EMPHASIS

- In Wisconsin in 1994, average reading proficiency was higher for students whose teachers spent 60 minutes on reading instruction than for students whose teachers spent 90 minutes or more on reading instruction each day.

- According to the public school administrators in Wisconsin, in 1994, 87 percent of the fourth-grade students were in schools where reading was identified as receiving special emphasis. This percentage was not significantly different from that of students across the country (85 percent).

- In 1994, according to their reading teachers, 24 percent of the students in public schools in Wisconsin were typically taught reading in a class that was grouped by reading ability. The prevalence of ability grouping was not significantly different across the nation (22 percent).

DELIVERY OF READING INSTRUCTION

- Students in Wisconsin whose teachers used both basal and trade books demonstrated an average reading proficiency (226) which was higher than that of students whose teachers primarily used basal readers (217).

- The proficiency of Wisconsin students whose teachers used both basal and trade books (226) was not significantly different from that of students whose teachers primarily used trade books (226).

- The proficiency of Wisconsin students whose teachers primarily used trade books (226) was higher than that of students whose teachers primarily used basal readers (217).

- In Wisconsin, 37 percent of the fourth-grade students had reading teachers who used children's newspapers and/or magazines at least once a week; 12 percent of the students had reading teachers who used reading kits at least once a week; 15 percent had reading teachers who used computer software for reading instruction at least once a week; 70 percent of the students had reading teachers who used a variety of books at least once a week; and, finally, 61 percent of the students had reading teachers who used materials from other subject areas at least once a week.

- According to the Wisconsin reading teachers, 60 percent of the students were asked to discuss new or difficult vocabulary almost every day. This percentage did not differ significantly from that of students across the nation (62 percent).

- According to their reading teachers, the percentage of students in Wisconsin who were asked to talk with each other almost every day about what they have read (34 percent) was not significantly different from that of students across the nation, where 34 percent of the students were asked to do this activity almost every day.

- According to the reading teachers in Wisconsin, 5 percent of the students were asked to do a group activity or project about what they have read almost every day. This figure was not significantly different from that of students across the nation (5 percent).

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND OF TEACHERS

- The percentage of students who were being taught by reading teachers who reported having at least a master's or education specialist's degree in Wisconsin (36 percent) was not significantly different from that for the nation (41 percent).

- About three quarters of the students (78 percent) had reading teachers who had the highest level of teaching certification that is recognized by Wisconsin. This was greater than the figure for the nation, where 65 percent of the students were taught by reading teachers who were certified at the highest level available in their states.

- In Wisconsin, 16 percent of the students were being taught reading by teachers who had an undergraduate major in English, reading, and/or language arts. This was not significantly different from the percentage of students across the nation who were being taught by reading teachers with the same major (20 percent).

HOME FACTORS

- In Wisconsin, 41 percent of the students reported having four types of reading materials (a newspaper, an encyclopedia, 25 or more books, and magazines) in the home. This figure was somewhat greater than that for the nation (36 percent). Students in Wisconsin who had all four of these types of materials in the home showed an average reading proficiency (230) which was higher than that of students with zero to two types of materials (213).

- In 1994 in Wisconsin, 23 percent of the students discussed with friends or family what they read almost every day. This percentage was smaller than that of students across the nation (28 percent). The proficiency of students in Wisconsin who discussed what they read with friends or family almost every day (222) did not differ significantly from that of students who had discussions with friends or family less than weekly (221).

- Less than one fifth of the fourth-grade students (14 percent) watched six hours or more of television each day. This was smaller than the figure for the nation, where 22 percent of the students watched this much television. Average reading proficiency in Wisconsin was lowest for students who spent six hours or more watching television each day.

Comparisons of Overall Reading Proficiency in Wisconsin with Other States

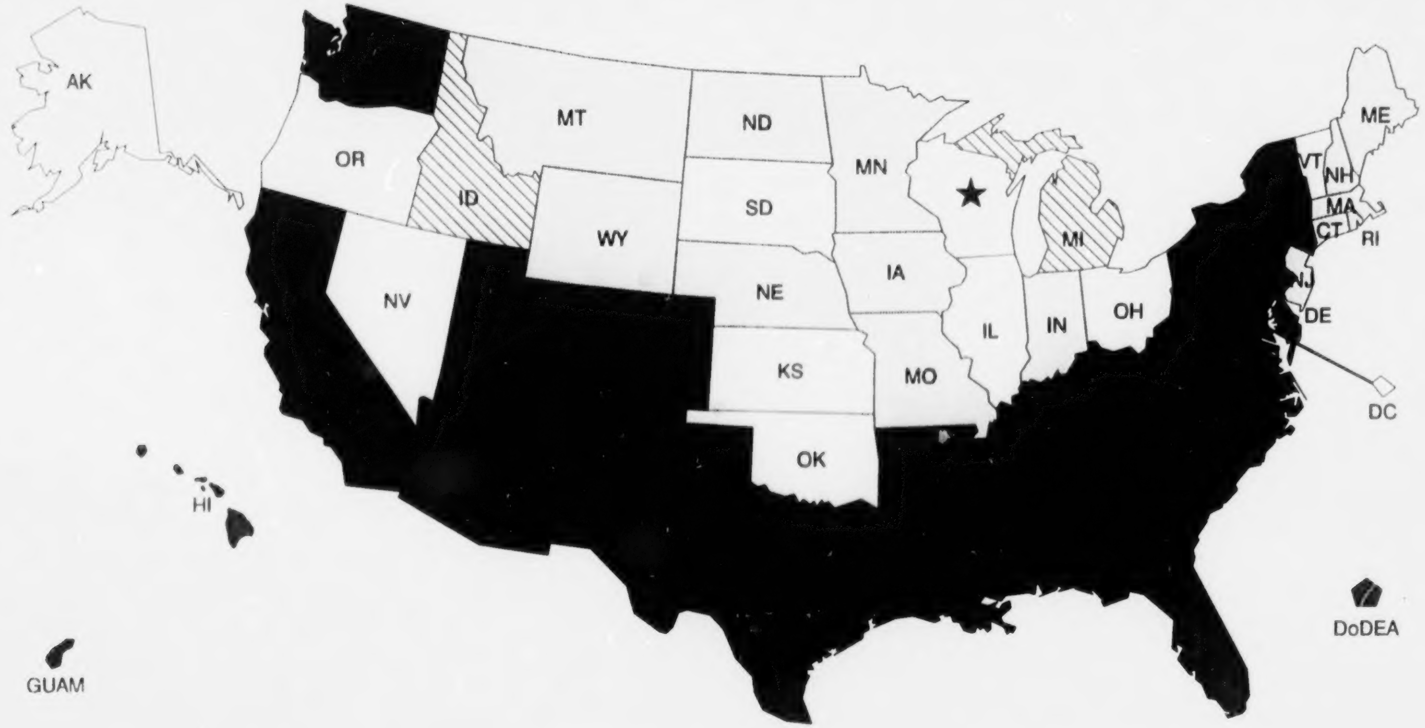
The map on the following page provides a method for making appropriate comparisons of the overall public school reading proficiency in Wisconsin with that in other states (including Guam and the Department of Defense Education Activity [DoDEA] Overseas Schools) that participated in the NAEP 1994 Trial State Assessment Program. The different shadings of the states on the map show whether the average overall proficiency of public school students in the other states was statistically different from or not statistically different from that of public school students in Wisconsin ("Target State"). States in black have a significantly lower average public school proficiency than does Wisconsin. States with a dark-gray shading have a significantly higher average public school proficiency than does Wisconsin. States with a light-gray shading have an average public school proficiency that does not differ significantly from that of Wisconsin. The significance tests are based on a Bonferroni procedure for multiple comparisons that holds the probability of erroneously declaring the means of any two states to be different, when they are not, to no more than five percent. Two states — Idaho and Michigan — did not meet minimum school participation guidelines for public schools. Another jurisdiction — Washington, DC — withdrew from the Trial State Assessment after the data collection phase. Therefore, these three jurisdictions are not included in the comparisons depicted on the map on the following page.

The 1994 Trial State Assessment

Comparisons of Overall Reading Proficiency

Grade 4 Public Schools

Wisconsin


AK
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NV
IL
IN
OH
DC
KS
MO
OK
HI
GUAM
DoDEA

★ Target state

▩ State has statistically significantly higher average proficiency than target state

☐ No statistically significant difference from target state

■ State has statistically significantly lower average proficiency than target state

▨ State did not meet minimum participation rate guidelines

☐ State did not participate (Washington DC declined to release 1994 results)

THE NATION'S REPORT CARD naep 1994 Trial State Assessment

OVERVIEW

For over 25 years, the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) has been the nation's primary indicator of student achievement, reporting on what students know and can do in various school subject areas at grades 4, 8, and 12. With legislation passed by Congress in 1988, NAEP's mission of providing dependable and comprehensive information about educational progress in the United States was expanded to involve a voluntary state-by-state assessment on a trial basis.

Consequently, the 1990 NAEP program included a Trial State Assessment Program in which public school students in 37 states, the District of Columbia, and two territories were assessed in eighth-grade mathematics.[5] Building on this initial effort, the 1992 NAEP program included a Trial State Assessment Program in fourth-grade reading and fourth- and eighth-grade mathematics, with public school students assessed in 41 states, the District of Columbia, and two territories.[6]

The continuation of NAEP's Trial State Assessment Program in 1994 was authorized by additional legislation that enlarged the state-by-state assessment to include non-public school students:

> *The National Assessment shall conduct in 1994 . . . a trial reading assessment for the 4th grade, in states that wish to participate, with the purpose of determining whether such assessments yield valid and reliable State representative data. (Section 406(i)(2)(C)(i) of the General Education Provisions Act, as amended by Pub. L. 103-33 (U.S.C. 1221e-1(a)(2)(B)(iii)))*
>
> *The National Assessment shall include in each sample assessment . . . students in public and private schools in a manner that ensures comparability with the national sample. (Section 406(i)(2)(C)(i) of the General Education Provisions Act, as amended by Pub. L. 103-33 (U.S.C. 1221e-1(a)(2)(B)(iii)))*

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[5] For a summary of the 1990 program, see Ina V.S. Mullis, John A. Dossey, Eugene H. Owen, and Gary W. Phillips. *The State of Mathematics Achievement: NAEP's 1990 Assessment of the Nation and the Trial Assessment of the States* (Washington, DC: National Center for Education Statistics, 1991).

[6] For a summary of the 1992 assessment of reading, see Ina V.S. Mullis, Jay R. Campbell, and Alan E. Farstrup. *The NAEP 1992 Reading Report Card for the Nation and the States* (Washington, DC: National Center for Education Statistics, 1993). For a summary of the 1992 assessment of mathematics, see Ina V.S. Mullis, John A. Dossey, Eugene H. Owen, and Gary W. Phillips. *NAEP 1992 Mathematics Report Card for the Nation and the States* (Washington, DC: National Center for Education Statistics, 1993).

In addition to the state assessment program in reading at grade 4, the 1994 NAEP involved national assessments of reading, geography, and history at grades 4, 8, and 12.

The 1994 Trial State Assessment Program was conducted in February 1994 with the following 44 participants:

- **Alabama**
- **Arizona**
- **Arkansas**
- **California**
- **Colorado**
- **Connecticut**
- **Delaware**
- **District of Columbia**
- **Florida**
- **Georgia**
- **Hawaii**
- **Idaho**
- **Indiana**
- **Iowa**
- **Kentucky**
- **Louisiana**
- **Maine**
- **Maryland**
- **Massachusetts**
- **Michigan**
- **Minnesota**
- **Mississippi**
- **Missouri**
- *Montana*
- **Nebraska**
- **New Hampshire**
- **New Jersey**
- **New Mexico**
- **New York**
- **North Carolina**
- **North Dakota**
- **Pennsylvania**
- **Rhode Island**
- **South Carolina**
- **Tennessee**
- **Texas**
- **Utah**
- **Virginia**
- *Washington*
- **West Virginia**
- **Wisconsin**
- **Wyoming**

- **Guam**
- *DoDEA*

Jurisdictions in italics — Montana, Washington, and the Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) Overseas Schools — did not participate in the 1992 Trial State Assessment Program. Two states — Idaho and Michigan — did not meet minimum school participation guidelines for public schools. Another jurisdiction — Washington, DC — withdrew from the Trial State Assessment Program after the data collection phase. Therefore, public school results for these three jurisdictions are not reported. Three jurisdictions — Ohio, Oklahoma, and the Virgin Islands — participated in the 1992 Trial State Assessment but not in the 1994 program.

For the 1994 Trial State Assessment in reading, a combined sample of approximately 2,800 public and non-public school students was assessed in most jurisdictions. The samples were carefully designed to represent the fourth-grade populations in the states or jurisdictions. Participating jurisdictions were responsible for the administration of the assessment. For jurisdictions that participated in the 1992 Trial State Assessment Program, contractor staff monitored 25 percent of public school sessions and 50 percent of non-public school sessions. For jurisdictions that did not participate in 1992, contractor staff monitored 50 percent of both public and non-public school sessions. Monitoring efforts were part of a quality assurance program designed to ensure that sessions were conducted uniformly.

The 1992 Trial State and National Assessment programs in reading were based on a framework developed through a national consensus process that was set forth by law and called for "active participation of teachers, curriculum specialists, subject matter specialists, local school administrators, parents, and members of the general public" (Pub. L. 100-297, Part C, 1988).[7] This same framework served as the basis of the 1994 Trial State and National Assessment programs.

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[7] NAEP Reading Consensus Project. *Reading Framework for the 1992 and 1994 National Assessment of Educational Progress.* (Washington, DC: National Assessment Governing Board, U.S. Department of Education, 1994).

The process of developing the framework was carried out in late 1989 and early 1990 by the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) under contract from the National Assessment Governing Board (NAGB) which is responsible for formulating policy for NAEP, including developing assessment objectives and test specifications. The framework development process included gathering input from a wide range of people in the fields of reading and assessment, such as school teachers, administrators, and state coordinators of reading and reading assessment. After thorough discussion and some amendment, the framework was adopted by NAGB in March 1990. An overview of the reading framework is provided in Appendix A.

The 1994 fourth-grade Trial State and National Assessments in reading consisted of eight sections or blocks, each 25 minutes in length. All fourth-grade students in the assessment were required to complete two blocks. Each block contained a passage or set of passages and a combination of constructed-response and multiple-choice questions. Passages selected for the assessment were drawn from authentic texts used by students in typical reading situations. Complete stories, articles, or sections of textbooks were used, rather than excerpts or abridgements. The type of question — constructed-response or multiple-choice — was determined by the objective being measured. In addition, the constructed-response questions were of two types: *short constructed-response* questions which required students to respond to a question in a few words or a few sentences and *extended constructed-response* questions which required students to respond to a question in a paragraph or more.

This Report

This is a computer-generated report that describes the reading performance of fourth-grade public school students in Wisconsin, in the Central region, and across the nation. A separate report describes additional fourth-grade reading assessment results for the nation and the states, as well as the national results for grades 8 and 12.[*] This report consists of four sections:

- This Overview provides background information about the 1994 Trial State Assessment Program and a profile of the fourth-grade students in Wisconsin.
- Part One shows the distribution of reading proficiency results for fourth-grade public school students in Wisconsin, the Central region, and the nation.
- Part Two presents reading achievement level results for public school fourth graders in Wisconsin, the Central region, and the nation.
- Part Three relates fourth-grade public school students' reading proficiency to contextual information about the reading policies, instruction, and home support for reading in Wisconsin, the Central region, and the nation.

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[*] See *NAEP 1994 Reading Report Card for the Nation and the States.* (Washington, DC: National Center for Education Statistics, 1995).

In this report, results are provided for groups of students defined by shared characteristics — race/ethnicity, type of location, parents' education level, and gender. Based on criteria described in Appendix A, data are reported for subpopulations only where sufficient numbers of students and adequate school representation are present. For public school students, there must be at least 62 students in a particular subgroup from at least 10 different schools. However, the data for all students, regardless of whether their subgroup was reported separately, were included in computing overall results for Wisconsin. Definitions of the subpopulations referred to in this report are presented below.

The results for Wisconsin are based on the representative sample of students who participated in the 1994 Trial State Assessment Program. The results for the nation and the region of the country are based on the nationally and regionally representative samples of students who were assessed in January through March as part of the national NAEP program. Using the national and regional results from the 1994 national NAEP program is necessary because of the voluntary nature of the Trial State Assessment Program. Since not every state participated in the program, the aggregated data across states did not necessarily provide representative national or regional results. Specific details on the samples and analysis procedures used can be found in the *Technical Report of the 1994 NAEP Trial State Assessment Program in Reading.*[9]

Race/Ethnicity

Results are presented for students of different racial/ethnic groups based on the students' self-identification of their race/ethnicity according to the following mutually exclusive categories: White, Black, Hispanic, Asian, Pacific Islander, and American Indian (including Alaskan Native). In 1992, the question posed to students regarding their racial/ethnic background had one Asian/Pacific Islander category. In 1994, these were two distinct response options for the question. Consequently, data and trend results for the separate categories are not available for the 1992 sample.

Type of Location

Results are provided for students attending public schools in three mutually exclusive location types — central city, urban fringe/large town, and rural/small town — as defined below. The type of location variable is defined in such a way as to indicate the *geographical* location of a student's school. The intention is not to indicate, or imply, social or economic meanings for these location types. The type of location variable, given the current NAEP sampling, does not support the reporting of regional results. Therefore, only state and national results will be presented.

> *Central City:* The Central City category includes central cities of all Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas (SMSA's).[10] Central City is a geographic term and is not synonymous with "inner city."

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[9] *Technical Report of the NAEP 1994 Trial State Assessment Program in Reading* (Washington, DC: National Center for Education Statistics, 1995).

[10] Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area (SMSA) as defined by the Office of Management and Budget.

> *Urban Fringe/Large Town:* An Urban Fringe includes all densely settled places and areas within SMSA's that are classified as urban by the Bureau of the Census. A Large Town is defined as places outside SMSA's with a population greater than or equal to 25,000.
>
> *Rural/Small Town:* Rural includes all places and areas with a population of less than 2,500 that are classified as rural by the Bureau of the Census. A Small Town is defined as places outside SMSA's with a population of less than 25,000 but greater than or equal to 2,500.

Parents' Education Level

Students were asked to indicate the extent of schooling for each of their parents — did not finish high school, graduated from high school, had some education after high school, graduated from college, or did not know. The response indicating the higher level of education was selected for reporting. Note that a substantial percentage of fourth-grade students did not know their parents' education level.

Gender

Results are reported separately for males and females.

Region

The United States has been divided into four regions for purposes of this report: Northeast, Southeast, Central, and West. States included in each region are shown in Figure O.1. All 50 states and the District of Columbia are listed, with the participants in the 1994 Trial State Assessment Program highlighted in boldface type. Guam and the Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) Overseas Schools were not assigned to a region. Further, students attending public schools in the part of Virginia that is included in the Washington, DC, metropolitan statistical area are included in the Northeast regional results; students attending public schools in the remainder of the state are included in the Southeast regional results. Because most of the Virginia students are in the Southeast region, regional comparisons for Virginia are to the Southeast.

Regional results are based on national assessment samples, not on aggregated Trial State Assessment samples, as explained on the previous page. Thus, the regional results are based on a *different* and *separate* sample from that used to report the state results.

FIGURE O.1

Regions of the Country

NORTHEAST	SOUTHEAST	CENTRAL	WEST
Connecticut	**Alabama**	Illinois	Alaska
Delaware	**Arkansas**	**Indiana**	**Arizona**
District of Columbia	**Florida**	**Iowa**	**California**
Maine	**Georgia**	Kansas	**Colorado**
Maryland	**Kentucky**	**Michigan**	**Hawaii**
Massachusetts	**Louisiana**	**Minnesota**	**Idaho**
New Hampshire	**Mississippi**	**Missouri**	**Montana**
New Jersey	**North Carolina**	**Nebraska**	Nevada
New York	**South Carolina**	**North Dakota**	**New Mexico**
Pennsylvania	**Tennessee**	Ohio	Oklahoma
Rhode Island	**Virginia**	South Dakota	Oregon
Vermont	**West Virginia**	**Wisconsin**	**Texas**
Virginia			**Utah**
			Washington
			Wyoming

Note: Part of Virginia (near metropolitan Washington, DC) is included in the Northeast region, and the rest of Virginia is in the Southeast region.

Guidelines for Analysis and Reporting

This report describes reading performance for public school fourth graders and compares the results for various groups of students within that population — for example, those who have certain demographic characteristics or who responded to a specific background question in a particular way. The report examines the results for individual demographic groups and individual background questions. It does not include an analysis of the relationships among combinations of these subpopulations or background questions.

Because the percentages of students in these subpopulations and their average proficiencies are based on samples — rather than on the entire population of fourth graders in a jurisdiction — the numbers reported are necessarily *estimates*. As such, they are subject to a measure of uncertainty, reflected in the *standard error* of the estimate. When the percentages or average proficiencies of certain groups are compared, it is essential to take the standard error into account, rather than to rely solely on observed similarities or differences. Therefore, the comparisons discussed in this report are based on *statistical tests* that consider both the magnitude of the difference between the means or percentages and the standard errors of those statistics.

The statistical tests determine whether the evidence — based on the data from the groups in the *sample* — is strong enough to conclude that the means or percentages are really different for those groups in the *population*. If the evidence is strong (i.e., the difference is statistically significant), the report describes the group means or percentages as being different (e.g., one group performed *higher than* or *lower than* another group) — regardless of whether the sample means or sample percentages appear to be about the same or not. If the evidence is not sufficiently strong (i.e., the difference is not statistically significant), the means or percentages are described as being *not significantly different* — again, regardless of whether the sample means or sample percentages appear to be about the same or widely discrepant. The reader is cautioned to rely on the results of the statistical tests — rather than on the apparent magnitude of the difference between sample means or percentages — to determine whether those sample differences are likely to represent actual differences between the groups in the population. The statistical tests and Bonferroni procedure, which is used when more than two groups are being compared, are discussed in greater detail in Appendix A.

In addition, some of the percentages reported in the text of the report are given quantitative descriptions (e.g., relatively few, about half, almost all, etc.). The descriptive phrases used and the rules used to select them are also described in Appendix A.

Finally, in several places in this report, results (mean proficiencies and percentages) are reported in the text for combined groups of students. For example, in the text, the proficiency of students in the combined group who reported reading for fun once or twice a month or never or hardly ever is given and compared to the group who reported reading for fun almost every day. However, the table that accompanies that text reports percentages and proficiencies separately for the four groups (almost every day, once or twice a week, once or twice a month, and never or hardly ever). The combined group proficiencies reported in the text and used in all statistical tests are based on *unrounded* estimates (i.e., estimates calculated to several decimal places) of the proficiencies for each group. The percentages shown in the tables are *rounded* to integers. Thus, percentages may not always add up to 100 percent due to rounding. Also, the percentage for a combined group (reported in the text) may differ slightly from the sum of the separate percentages (presented in the tables) for each of the groups that were combined. Therefore, if statistical tests were to be conducted based on the rounded numbers in the tables, the results might not be consonant with the results of the statistical tests that are reported in the text (based on unrounded numbers).

Profile of Wisconsin

Fourth-Grade School and Student Characteristics

Table O.1 provides a profile of the demographic characteristics of the fourth-grade public school students in Wisconsin, the Central region, and the nation. This profile is based on data collected from the students and schools participating in the 1992 and 1994 Trial State and National Assessments. As described earlier, the state data and the regional and national data are drawn from separate samples.

Schools and Students Assessed

Table O.2 summarizes participation data for schools and students sampled in Wisconsin for both the 1992 and 1994 Trial State Assessments.[1] In Wisconsin, 91 public schools participated in the 1994 fourth-grade reading assessment. This number includes participating substitute schools that were selected to replace some of the nonparticipating schools from the original sample. The weighted **school** participation rate after substitution in 1994 was 86 percent for public schools, which means that the fourth-grade students in this sample were **directly** representative of 86 percent of all the fourth-grade public school students in Wisconsin.

In each school, a random sample of students was selected to participate in the assessment. In 1994, as estimated by the sample, 2 percent of the fourth-grade public school population were classified as Limited English Proficient (LEP), while 11 percent in public schools had an Individualized Education Plan (IEP). An IEP is a plan, written for a student who has been determined to be eligible for special education, that typically sets forth goals and objectives for the student and describes a program of activities and/or related services necessary to achieve the goals and objectives. Students with disabilities may be categorized as IEP.

Schools were permitted to exclude certain students from the assessment, provided that certain criteria were met. To be excluded, a student had to be categorized as Limited English Proficient or had to have an Individualized Education Plan *and* (in either case) be judged incapable of participating in the assessment. The intent was to assess all selected students; therefore, all selected students who were capable of participating in the assessment should have been assessed. However, schools were allowed to exclude those students who, in the judgment of school staff, could not meaningfully participate. The NAEP guidelines for exclusion are intended to assure uniformity of exclusion criteria from school to school. Note that some LEP and IEP students were deemed eligible to participate and not excluded from the assessment. The students in Wisconsin who were excluded from the assessment because they were categorized as LEP or had an IEP represented 8 percent of the public school population in grade 4.

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[1] For a detailed discussion of the NCES guidelines for sample participation, see *School and Student Participation Rates for the Reading Assessment and Guidelines for Participation* (Washington, DC: National Center for Education Statistics, 1994), or see Appendix B of the *Technical Report of the NAEP 1994 Trial State Assessment Program in Reading* (Washington, DC: National Center for Education Statistics, 1995).

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1994 Trial State Assessment

TABLE O.1

Profile of Fourth-Grade Public School Students in Wisconsin, the Central Region, and the Nation

Demographic Subgroups			1992	1994
			Percentage	
RACE/ETHNICITY				
	Wisconsin	White	83 (1.4)	84 (1.4)
		Black	6 (0.8)	5 (0.9)
		Hispanic	8 (0.9)	7 (0.8)
		Asian	--- (--.-)	2 (0.5)
		Pacific Islander	--- (--.-)	0 (0.1)
		American Indian	2 (0.8)	2 (0.4)
	Central	White	79 (1.5)	80 (2.2)
		Black	11 (1.3)	11 (1.6)
		Hispanic	7 (1.0)	6 (0.8)
		Asian	--- (--.-)	1 (0.3)
		Pacific Islander	--- (--.-)	0 (0.2)
		American Indian	2 (0.4)	1 (0.3)
	Nation	White	69 (0.5)	68 (0.5)
		Black	17 (0.4)	16 (0.4)
		Hispanic	10 (0.3)	12 (0.3) >
		Asian	--- (--.-)	2 (0.2)
		Pacific Islander	--- (--.-)	1 (0.1)
		American Indian	2 (0.3)	2 (0.1)
TYPE OF LOCATION *				
	Wisconsin	Central City	31 (2.4)	34 (1.8)
		Urban Fringe/Large Town	28 (3.3)	29 (3.4)
		Rural/Small Town	40 (3.0)	37 (3.5)
	Nation	Central City	32 (2.8)	34 (2.1)
		Urban Fringe/Large Town	41 (3.5)	43 (2.5)
		Rural/Small Town	27 (2.6)	23 (2.3)
PARENTS' EDUCATION				
	Wisconsin	Graduated college	35 (1.2)	37 (1.4)
		Some education after high school	11 (0.6)	9 (0.7)
		Graduated high school	16 (1.0)	14 (0.8)
		Did not finish high school	3 (0.3)	4 (0.4)
		I don't know	36 (1.2)	37 (1.3)
	Central	Graduated college	38 (2.1)	45 (1.6)
		Some education after high school	13 (1.5)	8 (1.6)
		Graduated high school	13 (1.0)	12 (1.1)
		Did not finish high school	3 (0.7)	4 (0.6)
		I don't know	34 (2.1)	31 (1.9)
	Nation	Graduated college	37 (1.1)	41 (1.0)
		Some education after high school	9 (0.6)	8 (0.5)
		Graduated high school	13 (0.6)	13 (0.5)
		Did not finish high school	4 (0.4)	4 (0.4)
		I don't know	37 (1.1)	34 (0.9)
GENDER				
	Wisconsin	Male	50 (0.9)	49 (1.1)
		Female	50 (0.9)	51 (1.1)
	Central	Male	54 (1.1)	53 (1.4)
		Female	46 (1.1)	47 (1.4)
	Nation	Male	51 (0.7)	51 (0.7)
		Female	49 (0.7)	49 (0.7)

--- Separate statistics for Asian and Pacific Islander students were not available in 1992.

* School sample size is insufficient to permit reliable regional results for type of location.

The standard errors of the statistics appear in parentheses. It can be said with about 95 percent confidence that, for each population of interest, the value for the entire population is within ± 2 standard errors of the estimate for the sample. In comparing two estimates, one must use the standard error of the difference (see Appendix A for details). If the notation > (<) appears, it signifies that the value for public school students in 1994 was significantly higher (lower) than the value for 1992 at about the 95 percent confidence level. The percentages for Race/Ethnicity may not add to 100 percent because some students categorized themselves as "Other."

In Wisconsin, 2,331 public school fourth-grade students were assessed in 1994. The weighted **student** participation rate was 96 percent for public schools. This means that the sample of fourth-grade students who took part in the assessment was **directly** representative of 96 percent of the **eligible** public school student population in **participating** schools in Wisconsin (that is, all students from the population represented by the participating schools, minus those students excluded from the assessment).

The **overall** weighted response rate (school rate times student rate) was 82 percent for public schools. This means that the sample of students who participated in the assessment was **directly** representative of 82 percent of the eligible fourth-grade public school population in Wisconsin.

Following standard practice in survey research, the results presented in this report were produced using calculations which incorporate adjustments for the nonparticipating schools and students. Hence, the final results derived from the sample provide estimates of the reading proficiency and achievement for the **full** population of eligible public school fourth-grade students in Wisconsin. However, these nonparticipation adjustments may not adequately compensate for the missing sample schools and students in instances where nonparticipation rates are large.

In order to guard against potential nonparticipation bias in published results, NCES has established minimum participation levels necessary for the publication of 1994 Trial State Assessment results. NCES also established additional guidelines that address four ways in which nonparticipation bias could be introduced into a jurisdiction's published results (see Appendix A). In 1994, Wisconsin failed to meet minimum participation rate guidelines for non-public schools. Hence, only public school results are included in this report. However, Wisconsin failed to meet one or more of the other NCES participation rate guidelines. Wisconsin's weighted participation rate for the initial sample of public schools was below 85 percent and the weighted school participation rate after substitution was below 90 percent (see Appendix A).

In the analysis of student data and reporting of results, nonresponse weighting adjustments have been made at both the school and student level, with the aim of making the sample of participating students as representative as possible of the entire eligible fourth-grade public school population. For details of the nonresponse weighting adjustment procedures, see the *Technical Report of the NAEP 1994 Trial State Assessment Program in Reading*.

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TABLE O.2

Profile of the Fourth-Grade Population Assessed in Wisconsin

	1992	1994	
	Public	Public	Non-Public
SCHOOL PARTICIPATION			
Weighted school participation rate before substitution	99%	79%	66%
Weighted school participation rate after substitution	99%	86%	66%
Number of schools originally sampled	127	108	36
Number of schools not eligible	5	3	4
Number of schools in original sample participating	122	84	20
Number of substitute schools provided	0	20	12
Number of substitute schools participating	0	7	0
Total number of participating schools	122	91	20
STUDENT PARTICIPATION			
Weighted student participation rate after makeups	96%	96%	95%
Number of students selected to participate in the assessment	3,098	2,655	411
Number of students withdrawn from the assessment	72	46	4
Percentage of students who were of Limited English Proficiency	2%	2%	0%
Percentage of students excluded from the assessment due to Limited English Proficiency	1%	1%	0%
Percentage of students who had an Individualized Education Plan	9%	11%	2%
Percentage of students excluded from the assessment due to Individualized Education Plan Status	6%	7%	0%
Number of students to be assessed	2,827	2,420	406
Number of students assessed	2,712	2,331	388
Overall weighted response rate	95%	82%	62%

Wisconsin failed to meet established NCES participation guidelines for public schools. In 1994, Wisconsin's public school weighted participation rate for the initial sample of schools was below 85% AND the weighted participation rate after substitution was below 90%. Wisconsin's non-public school weighted participation rate for the initial sample was less than 70%. Also in 1994, the materials from one public school in Wisconsin that conducted an assessment were lost in shipping. The school is included in the counts of participating public schools, both before and after substitution. However, in the weighted results, the school is treated in the same manner as a nonparticipating school because no student responses were available for analysis and reporting. In one or more schools in Wisconsin in 1992 an assessment was conducted, but either the wrong materials were sent to the school(s) or the materials were lost in shipping via the U.S. Postal Service. The school(s) are included in the counts of participating schools in Wisconsin, both before and after substitution. However, in the weighted results, for 1992, the school(s) are treated in the same manner as a nonparticipating school because no student responses were available for analysis and reporting. The students in these school(s) are included in the counts of students in the table. However, Wisconsin's 1992 estimates are not based on these student responses.

PART ONE

The Reading Proficiency of Fourth-Grade Public School Students in Wisconsin

Reading involves the interaction between and among a reader, a text, and a situation.[12] Thus, students' reading comprehension is influenced by the type of material read and the specific purposes for reading. The 1994 Trial State Assessment Program considered students' proficiency in situations that involved reading different kinds of materials for different purposes. The fourth-grade reading assessment measured two global purposes for reading — **reading for literary experience** and **reading to gain information**.[13] Students' proficiency on each of the two purposes for reading was summarized on separate NAEP reading scales (one for each purpose), which range from 0 to 500. In addition, results for an overall reading scale reflecting average proficiency across the two purposes for reading are also presented. The overall reading scale also ranges from 0 to 500.

This part of the report contains two chapters that describe the reading proficiency of fourth-grade students in Wisconsin. Chapter 1 compares the overall reading proficiency of public school students in Wisconsin to the Central region and the nation. It also presents the students' average proficiency for the two purposes for reading. Chapter 2 summarizes reading proficiency for subpopulations of public school students defined by race/ethnicity, type of location, parents' education level, and gender.

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[12] J.A. Dole, G.G. Duffy, L.R. Roehler, and P.D. Pearson, "Moving from the Old to the New: Research on Reading Comprehension Instruction," in *Review of Educational Research, 61* (1991), pp. 239-264.

[13] The eighth- and twelfth-grade national NAEP reading assessments also measured a third purpose for reading — reading to perform a task.

CHAPTER 1

Students' Reading Proficiency

In 1994, renewed emphasis was placed on national education goals when Congress reauthorized the *Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA)* and enacted the *Goals 2000: Educate America Act*. A concern for higher academic standards is evident in the *ESEA*'s efforts to provide programs to improve America's schools. *Goals 2000* reasserts the importance of establishing and meeting rigorous goals in the education of our nation's students — *All students will leave grades 4, 8, and 12 having demonstrated competency over challenging subject matter including English, mathematics, science, foreign languages, civics and government, economics, arts, history, and geography, and every school in America will ensure that all students learn to use their minds well, so they may be prepared for responsible citizenship, further learning, and productive employment in our nation's modern economy.* Reading ability can be viewed as an enabling skill for reaching these goals. Therefore, concern about attaining these goals and, more specifically, about the reading abilities of our nation's students has increased because recent NAEP results appear to indicate that many students of all ages have difficulty reading thoughtfully.[14]

The *NAEP Reading Framework* underlying both the 1992 and 1994 assessments views reading as a dynamic, complex interaction between and among the reader, the text, and the context of the reading experience. Readers, for example, bring to the reading process their prior knowledge about a topic, their reasons for reading, their individual reading skills and strategies, and their understanding of differences in text structures.[15]

The texts used in the NAEP reading assessment are representative of common reading demands. Because reading performance varies in response to texts and contexts, the NAEP assessment measured students' abilities to read different types of materials for different purposes. The texts were selected from naturally-occurring sources that are typically available to children in and out of school. Students in grade 4 were asked to respond to literary and informational texts, corresponding with the two purposes for reading assessed at grade 4 — reading for literary experience and reading to gain information.

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[14] Ina V.S. Mullis, Jay R. Campbell, and Alan E. Farstrup. *The NAEP 1992 Reading Report Card for the Nation and the States.* (Washington, DC: National Center for Education Statistics, 1993); Ina V.S. Mullis, John A. Dossey, Jay R. Campbell, Claudia A. Gentile, Christine O'Sullivan, and Andrew S. Latham. *NAEP 1992 Trends in Academic Progress.* (Washington, DC: National Center for Education Statistics, 1994).

[15] J.A. Langer. "The Process of Understanding: Reading for Literary and Informational Purposes," in *Research in the Teaching of English, 24* (1990), pp. 229-260; NAEP Reading Consensus Project. *Reading Framework for the 1992 and 1994 National Assessment of Educational Progress.* (Washington, DC: National Assessment Governing Board, U.S. Department of Education, 1994).

Reading for literary experience typically involves the reader in vicarious experiences through the story's characters or considerations of how the author explores human events. Literary texts include short stories, poems, and folktales that engage the reader in a variety of ways, not the least of which is reading for fun. Reading to gain information may involve seeking to learn about a topic or to search for specific information. Informational texts include selections from textbooks, magazines, encyclopedias, and other written sources whose purpose is to increase the reader's knowledge. Differences between narrative and informational text typically require students to use different skills and strategies.

In addition to having fourth graders demonstrate their ability to read for two different purposes, the assessment asked students to build, extend, and examine meaning from four stances or types of interactions with the text.

Initial Understanding

Students are asked to provide the overall or general meaning of the selection. This includes first impressions, main points, or themes.

Developing an Interpretation

Students are asked to extend the ideas in the text by making inferences and connections. This includes making connections between cause and effect, analyzing the motives of characters, and drawing conclusions.

Personal Response

Students are asked to make explicit connections between the ideas in the text and their own background knowledge and experiences. This includes comparing story characters with themselves or people they know, or indicating whether they found a passage useful or interesting.

Critical Stance

Students are asked to consider the text objectively. This includes identifying how the author crafted a text with stylistic devices such as mood and tone.

These stances are not considered hierarchical or completely independent of each other. Rather, they are viewed as recursive processes that take place throughout reading and represent different dimensions of the reader's understanding. They provide a frame for generating assessment questions and considering student performance at all levels. All students at all levels should be able to respond to reading selections from all of these stances. What varies with students' developmental and proficiency levels is the amount of prompting or support needed to elicit their responses, the complexity of the texts to which they can respond, and the sophistication of their answers.

This chapter describes the reading proficiency of Wisconsin's public school fourth graders in 1994 and the comparative results of their regional and national counterparts. In addition, this chapter provides a comparison of reading performance in 1992 and 1994 for Wisconsin's fourth graders attending public schools.

Table 1.1 shows the distribution of reading proficiency of fourth-grade students attending public schools in Wisconsin, the Central region, and the nation.

1994, Public School Students

The average reading proficiency of fourth-grade public school students in Wisconsin on the NAEP reading scale was 224. This average was higher than that of students across the nation (212).[6] The lowest performing 10 percent of public school fourth graders in Wisconsin had proficiencies at or below 183 while the top 10 percent had proficiencies at or above 263. In public schools across the nation, the lowest performing 10 percent of fourth graders had proficiencies at or below 156; the top performing 10 percent of students had proficiencies at or above 261.

1992 vs 1994, Public School Students

There was no significant change in the average proficiency of fourth-grade public school students in Wisconsin from 1992 to 1994 (224 in 1992 and 224 in 1994). During the same period, there was no significant change in the average proficiency of fourth-grade public school students across the nation (215 in 1992 and 212 in 1994).

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TABLE 1.1

Distribution of Reading Proficiency for Fourth-Grade Public School Students

	Average Proficiency	10th Percentile	25th Percentile	50th Percentile	75th Percentile	90th Percentile
1992						
Wisconsin	224 (1.0)	184 (2.0)	204 (1.2)	225 (1.1)	245 (0.8)	261 (0.9)
Central	218 (1.5)	172 (3.7)	196 (2.4)	221 (1.9)	241 (2.5)	260 (3.7)
Nation	215 (1.0)	168 (1.9)	192 (1.0)	217 (1.7)	240 (1.3)	259 (2.3)
1994						
Wisconsin	224 (1.1)	183 (2.0)	204 (1.4)	226 (1.4)	246 (1.7)	263 (1.3)
Central	218 (2.7)	166 (4.6)	195 (3.9)	223 (3.3)	245 (2.7)	264 (2.9)
Nation	212 (1.1)	156 (2.1) <	187 (1.5) <	217 (1.2)	241 (1.2)	261 (1.5)

The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500. The standard errors of the statistics appear in parentheses. It can be said with about 95 percent confidence that, for each population of interest, the value for the entire population is within ± 2 standard errors of the estimate for the sample. In comparing two estimates, one must use the standard error of the difference (see Appendix A for details). If the notation > (<) appears, it signifies that the value for public school students in 1994 was significantly higher (lower) than the value for 1992 at about the 95 percent confidence level.

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[6] Differences reported as significant are statistically different at the 95 percent confidence level. This means that with 95 percent confidence there is a real difference in the average reading proficiency between the two populations of interest.

Proficiency According to Purpose for Reading

As previously indicated, the questions in the 1994 Trial State Assessment Program covered two purposes for reading at grade 4 — reading for literary experience and reading to gain information. Table 1.2 provides results for Wisconsin, the Central region, and the nation according to each reading purpose.

1994, Public School Students

The proficiency of public school students in Wisconsin in reading for literary experience (225) was higher than that of students across the nation (214). Similarly, in reading to gain information, the proficiency of public school students in Wisconsin (223) was higher than that of students across the nation (210).

1992 vs 1994, Public School Students

Wisconsin's public school fourth graders showed no significant change from 1992 to 1994 in reading for literary experience. Similarly, in reading to gain information, they exhibited no significant change from 1992 to 1994.

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TABLE 1.2

Distribution of Reading Proficiency for Fourth-Grade Public School Students According to Purpose for Reading

	Average Proficiency	10th Percentile	25th Percentile	50th Percentile	75th Percentile	90th Percentile
Reading for Literary Experience						
1992 Public						
Wisconsin	226 (1.1)	185 (1.9)	206 (1.3)	228 (2.2)	248 (1.2)	264 (1.5)
Central	219 (1.7)	172 (4.1)	197 (1.8)	221 (2.6)	243 (2.3)	262 (3.3)
Nation	217 (1.0)	169 (1.7)	194 (1.2)	219 (1.1)	242 (1.3)	262 (1.6)
1994 Public						
Wisconsin	225 (1.3)	183 (2.9)	204 (1.1)	227 (1.3)	247 (1.0)	264 (1.1)
Central	221 (2.8)	167 (5.8)	197 (4.0)	225 (2.5)	249 (2.3)	267 (2.7)
Nation	214 (1.2)	157 (2.2) <	189 (1.6)	219 (1.1)	244 (1.2)	264 (1.3)
Reading to Gain Information						
1992 Public						
Wisconsin	221 (1.0)	178 (2.1)	199 (1.5)	222 (1.6)	243 (1.0)	262 (1.4)
Central	216 (1.7)	168 (8.2)	193 (4.4)	219 (2.2)	241 (2.6)	260 (2.5)
Nation	212 (1.2)	162 (1.8)	187 (1.4)	214 (1.2)	238 (1.3)	259 (1.9)
1994 Public						
Wisconsin	223 (1.4)	178 (3.1)	201 (1.8)	226 (1.4)	248 (1.5)	265 (1.3)
Central	215 (2.9)	160 (9.6)	191 (3.3)	219 (2.7)	243 (2.9)	264 (1.9)
Nation	210 (1.2)	151 (2.0) <	183 (1.4)	214 (1.5)	240 (1.5)	262 (1.4)

The NAEP "purpose for reading" scales range from 0 to 500. The standard errors of the statistics appear in parentheses. It can be said with about 95 percent confidence that, for each population of interest, the value for the entire population is within ± 2 standard errors of the estimate for the sample. In comparing two estimates, one must use the standard error of the difference (see Appendix A for details). If the notation > (<) appears, it signifies that the value for public school students in 1994 was significantly higher (lower) than the value for 1992 at about the 95 percent confidence level.

CHAPTER 2

Reading Proficiency of Fourth-Grade Students by Subpopulations

The overall reading proficiency of public school students across the country presented in the previous chapter provides a global view of the state of reading performance. However, it is also important to look more closely at the performance of subgroups and to consider how different groups of children are progressing in reading. This information can provide educators, policy makers, and concerned citizens with important knowledge about how well students from different backgrounds and with different experiences are developing as readers.

The 1994 Trial State Assessment Program provides additional information about the reading proficiency of important subpopulations by reporting on the performance of various subgroups of the public school student population defined by race/ethnicity, type of location, parents' education level, and gender.

Race/Ethnicity

The 1994 Trial State Assessment Program results for different racial/ethnic groups can be compared when the number of schools and students in a racial/ethnic group is of sufficient size to be reliably reported. (See Appendix A for details.) Table 2.1 presents reading proficiency results for White, Black, and Hispanic fourth-grade public school students from Wisconsin.

1994, Public School Students

As shown in Table 2.1, the average reading proficiency of White students in Wisconsin public schools was higher than that of Black and Hispanic students.

1992 vs 1994, Public School Students

There was no significant change in the average reading proficiency of White, Black, or Hispanic public school students in Wisconsin from 1992 to 1994.

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TABLE 2.1

Distribution of Reading Proficiency for Fourth-Grade Public School Students by Race/Ethnicity

		Average Proficiency	10th Percentile	25th Percentile	50th Percentile	75th Percentile	90th Percentile
White							
1992	Wisconsin	227 (1.0)	189 (3.0)	208 (1.1)	229 (0.9)	247 (1.0)	263 (2.1)
	Central	224 (1.8)	182 (4.0)	204 (2.1)	225 (2.4)	245 (2.7)	262 (3.5)
	Nation	223 (1.3)	180 (2.3)	202 (1.4)	225 (1.6)	246 (1.3)	264 (1.6)
1994	Wisconsin	228 (1.1)	189 (2.4)	209 (1.2)	230 (1.1)	249 (1.5)	265 (1.0)
	Central	225-(2.8)	179 (4.8)	204 (2.6)	228 (3.7)	249 (3.1)	266 (2.7)
	Nation	223 (1.3)	175 (2.3)	201 (1.7)	226 (1.4)	247 (1.1)	266 (2.4)
Black							
1992	Wisconsin	200 (2.4)	163 (10.0)	183 (3.7)	201 (1.9)	219 (5.9)	237 (7.7)
	Central	187 (3.3)	145 (6.3)	164 (8.5)	189 (5.6)	211 (4.1)	227 (11.4)
	Nation	192 (1.6)	148 (3.5)	169 (3.0)	193 (2.0)	215 (2.6)	235 (2.2)
1994	Wisconsin	197 (3.5)	152 (7.5)	177 (8.3)	200 (3.4)	219 (5.6)	237 (1.3)
	Central	182 (6.4)	130 (3.9)	154 (8.9)	185 (15.1)	212 (6.9)	231 (5.8)
	Nation	186 (1.7) <	135 (3.1)	160 (1.9)	187 (1.9)	213 (2.2)	234 (2.3)
Hispanic							
1992	Wisconsin	210 (3.3)	168 (6.5)	192 (7.0)	213 (3.1)	230 (2.8)	247 (4.7)
	Central	209 (4.7)	158 (13.8)	183 (3.5)	210 (4.8)	236 (7.7)	254 (21.4)
	Nation	199 (2.2)	151 (4.2)	175 (2.4)	200 (3.7)	225 (3.9)	245 (2.4)
1994	Wisconsin	203 (4.3)	160 (4.8)	183 (8.8)	204 (5.0)	225 (3.6)	246 (9.0)
	Central	199 (6.7)	142 (16.4)	170 (9.9)	198 (6.5)	233 (10.8)	251 (5.7)
	Nation	188 (2.7) <	134 (4.7)	160 (3.5) <	189 (4.2)	217 (3.5)	242 (3.6)

The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500. The standard errors of the statistics appear in parentheses. It can be said with about 95 percent confidence that, for each population of interest, the value for the entire population is within ± 2 standard errors of the estimate for the sample. In comparing two estimates, one must use the standard error of the difference (see Appendix A for details). If the notation > (<) appears, it signifies that the value for public school students in 1994 was significantly higher (lower) than the value for 1992 at about the 95 percent confidence level.

Type of Location

Table 2.2 presents the reading proficiency results for fourth-grade students attending public schools in central cities, urban fringe/large towns, and rural areas/small towns.

> ***1994, Public School Students***
>
> The results indicate that the average reading proficiency of Wisconsin students attending public schools in central cities was not significantly different from that of students in urban fringe/large towns and rural areas/small towns.
>
> ***1992 vs 1994, Public School Students***
>
> From 1992 to 1994, there was no significant change in the average reading proficiency of students attending public schools in central cities, urban fringe/large towns, or rural areas/small towns in Wisconsin.

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TABLE 2.2

Distribution of Reading Proficiency for Fourth-Grade Public School Students by Type of Location

		Average Proficiency	10th Percentile	25th Percentile	50th Percentile	75th Percentile	90th Percentile
Central City							
1992	Wisconsin	222 (2.1)	180 (4.9)	200 (3.4)	223 (2.2)	244 (2.3)	264 (2.3)
	Nation	207 (1.5)	159 (2.6)	183 (2.6)	209 (1.9)	232 (1.9)	253 (2.6)
1994	Wisconsin	221 (2.4)	174 (2.6)	199 (3.2)	224 (1.9)	245 (3.1)	262 (3.0)
	Nation	203 (2.4)	145 (2.6) <	174 (3.1)	208 (3.0)	235 (2.7)	256 (2.0)
Urban Fringe/Large Town							
1992	Wisconsin	225 (1.6)	187 (3.9)	206 (3.1)	227 (2.1)	245 (1.6)	260 (1.5)
	Nation	219 (2.2)	173 (4.4)	196 (2.0)	222 (2.6)	245 (1.9)	263 (4.5)
1994	Wisconsin	226 (1.7)	187 (4.1)	205 (1.5)	227 (2.5)	246 (1.7)	263 (3.8)
	Nation	219 (1.9)	166 (4.1)	196 (3.0)	223 (1.1)	246 (1.7)	265 (3.0)
Rural/Small Town							
1992	Wisconsin	224 (1.8)	185 (3.0)	205 (2.0)	226 (1.6)	244 (1.5)	259 (2.2)
	Nation	217 (2.5)	173 (2.8)	196 (4.4)	220 (2.7)	240 (2.4)	258 (3.9)
1994	Wisconsin	226 (1.5)	187 (2.8)	206 (1.7)	228 (1.6)	247 (2.7)	263 (1.6)
	Nation	213 (1.8)	162 (3.0)	189 (2.8)	217 (1.8)	240 (2.1)	260 (2.1)

School sample size is insufficient to permit reliable regional results for type of location.

The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500. The standard errors of the statistics appear in parentheses. It can be said with about 95 percent confidence that, for each population of interest, the value for the entire population is within ± 2 standard errors of the estimate for the sample. In comparing two estimates, one must use the standard error of the difference (see Appendix A for details). If the notation > (<) appears, it signifies that the value for public school students in 1994 was significantly higher (lower) than the value for 1992 at about the 95 percent confidence level.

Parents' Education Level

Previous NAEP findings have shown that students who report their parents are better educated tend to have higher reading proficiency.[17] Table 2.3 shows the results for fourth-grade public school students reporting that at least one parent graduated from college, at least one parent had some education after high school, at least one parent graduated from high school, neither parent graduated from high school, or they did not know their parents' education level. Note that a substantial percentage of fourth graders indicated that they did not know their parents' education level. Furthermore, research suggests that some fourth graders' reports on parents' education level are almost certainly not accurate descriptions of their parents' actual education levels.[18] Such considerations should be kept in mind when interpreting fourth grade proficiency results for different parental education levels.

1994, Public School Students

As shown in Table 2.3, public school students in Wisconsin reporting that at least one parent graduated from college demonstrated an average reading proficiency which did not differ significantly from that of students who reported that at least one parent had some education after high school but was higher than that of students who reported that at least one parent graduated from high school, neither parent graduated from high school, or they did not know their parents' education level.

1992 vs 1994, Public School Students

The average proficiency of public school students in Wisconsin who reported that at least one parent graduated from college, at least one parent had some education after high school, at least one parent graduated from high school, neither parent graduated from high school, or they did not know their parents' education level did not change significantly between 1992 and 1994.

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[17] Ina V.S. Mullis, Jay R. Campbell, and Alan E. Farstrup, *The NAEP 1992 Reading Report Card for the Nation and the States* (Washington, DC: National Center for Education Statistics, 1993).

[18] E. Dianne Looker, "Accuracy of Proxy Reports of Parental Status Characteristics," in *Sociology of Education, 62(4)* (1989), pp. 257-276.

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TABLE 2.3

Distribution of Reading Proficiency for Fourth-Grade Public School Students by Parents' Level of Education

			Average Proficiency	10th Percentile	25th Percentile	50th Percentile	75th Percentile	90th Percentile
College graduate								
	1992	Wisconsin	231 (1.6)	191 (1.9)	211 (2.5)	233 (2.7)	252 (2.4)	268 (1.5)
		Central	223 (2.6)	177 (5.6)	202 (2.7)	226 (3.9)	247 (2.9)	264 (3.5)
		Nation	223 (1.6)	175 (3.5)	200 (2.1)	226 (2.1)	249 (1.4)	267 (2.4)
	1994	Wisconsin	233 (1.6)	192 (4.1)	213 (1.6)	236 (2.6)	254 (1.6)	270 (2.1)
		Central	226 (3.0)	177 (5.5)	205 (4.7)	230 (4.5)	252 (2.0)	270 (5.5)
		Nation	222 (1.4)	168 (1.9)	199 (1.4)	227 (1.7)	249 (1.8)	269 (1.6)
Some education after HS								
	1992	Wisconsin	232 (1.9)	198 (5.5)	215 (3.5)	234 (5.3)	250 (1.4)	267 (2.8)
		Central	224 (4.0)	187 (4.9)	205 (6.9)	225 (7.3)	244 (7.4)	263 (10.8)
		Nation	221 (2.4)	177 (9.0)	201 (3.3)	223 (2.9)	245 (3.6)	264 (7.5)
	1994	Wisconsin	228 (2.5)	186 (9.1)	208 (3.2)	230 (2.8)	248 (5.1)	264 (7.1)
		Central	221 (5.1)	170 (12.6)	202 (8.0)	227 (5.2)	246 (3.8)	263 (4.1)
		Nation	222 (2.2)	171 (9.6)	199 (4.3)	226 (3.9)	248 (3.1)	266 (3.9)
High school graduate								
	1992	Wisconsin	219 (1.4)	182 (3.7)	201 (1.1)	221 (1.5)	240 (1.2)	255 (2.6)
		Central	214 (3.7)	174 (4.4)	198 (3.7)	217 (2.9)	234 (3.2)	250 (4.7)
		Nation	211 (1.8)	165 (1.6)	190 (2.8)	214 (2.6)	234 (2.6)	252 (2.8)
	1994	Wisconsin	223 (2.5)	185 (7.1)	202 (2.6)	224 (2.6)	244 (1.9)	260 (5.4)
		Central	215 (4.0)	163 (10.2)	188 (6.1)	220 (3.4)	245 (4.7)	261 (4.1)
		Nation	206 (1.9)	149 (3.0) <	181 (2.6)	212 (0.8)	235 (2.4)	255 (4.0)
High school non-graduate								
	1992	Wisconsin	212 (3.8)	176 (13.8)	197 (27.8)	215 (4.6)	229 (5.3)	245 (6.5)
		Central	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)
		Nation	197 (2.7)	154 (5.7)	175 (7.2)	199 (3.1)	221 (7.9)	241 (5.1)
	1994	Wisconsin	212 (4.1)	172 (6.5)	191 (21.1)	213 (3.6)	236 (7.1)	254 (5.8)
		Central	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)
		Nation	188 (3.5)	137 (7.3)	162 (8.8)	188 (2.9)	216 (4.3)	236 (4.3)
I don't know								
	1992	Wisconsin	217 (1.5)	178 (2.5)	197 (1.8)	218 (1.9)	238 (1.6)	254 (2.3)
		Central	213 (2.1)	167 (5.1)	190 (3.1)	217 (2.3)	237 (4.4)	256 (2.9)
		Nation	209 (1.3)	163 (1.9)	187 (1.8)	212 (1.5)	232 (1.7)	251 (2.2)
	1994	Wisconsin	217 (1.5)	175 (2.6)	198 (2.6)	219 (2.4)	239 (1.9)	255 (1.6)
		Central	210 (3.2)	155 (6.5)	187 (4.2)	215 (4.0)	238 (2.8)	255 (3.3)
		Nation	204 (1.3)	150 (3.1) <	179 (2.2)	208 (1.1)	234 (1.6)	253 (1.9)

The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500. The standard errors of the statistics appear in parentheses. It can be said with about 95 percent confidence that, for each population of interest, the value for the entire population is within ± 2 standard errors of the estimate for the sample. In comparing two estimates, one must use the standard error of the difference (see Appendix A for details). If the notation > (<) appears, it signifies that the value for public school students in 1994 was significantly higher (lower) than the value for 1992 at about the 95 percent confidence level. *** Sample size is insufficient to permit a reliable estimate.

Gender

In general, NAEP reading assessment results for males and females support numerous studies that have revealed gender differences favoring females in reading.[19] As shown in Table 2.4, the 1994 Trial State Assessment Program results for Wisconsin are consistent with those general findings.

1994, Public School Students

In public schools in Wisconsin, girls exhibited an average reading proficiency which was higher than that of boys.

1992 vs 1994, Public School Students

In Wisconsin public schools, the average reading proficiency for boys did not change significantly from 1992 to 1994. Similarly, the average proficiency for girls did not change significantly from 1992 to 1994.

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TABLE 2.4

Distribution of Reading Proficiency for Fourth-Grade Public School Students by Gender

		Average Proficiency	10th Percentile	25th Percentile	50th Percentile	75th Percentile	90th Percentile
Male							
1992	Wisconsin	221 (1.2)	182 (2.9)	201 (1.7)	223 (1.6)	242 (0.9)	258 (1.3)
	Central	216 (1.6)	170 (3.6)	194 (1.8)	220 (2.2)	240 (3.5)	258 (2.8)
	Nation	211 (1.3)	163 (2.1)	188 (1.9)	213 (1.4)	237 (2.0)	256 (2.4)
1994	Wisconsin	221 (1.2)	181 (3.0)	201 (1.8)	223 (1.1)	243 (1.4)	260 (1.1)
	Central	212 (2.6)	157 (10.1)	189 (4.5)	217 (2.2)	240 (2.9)	259 (3.8)
	Nation	207 (1.3)	149 (1.8) <	181 (1.0) <	211 (1.8)	237 (1.2)	257 (1.9)
Female							
1992	Wisconsin	226 (1.2)	186 (2.4)	206 (1.7)	228 (1.1)	247 (1.0)	264 (2.2)
	Central	220 (2.4)	175 (5.2)	200 (2.7)	222 (2.6)	243 (3.8)	262 (3.9)
	Nation	219 (1.1)	173 (2.1)	197 (2.0)	221 (1.1)	243 (1.6)	262 (1.7)
1994	Wisconsin	227 (1.5)	184 (2.0)	208 (1.9)	230 (1.2)	249 (1.9)	266 (4.2)
	Central	225 (3.0)	174 (11.5)	203 (3.3)	229 (4.8)	251 (3.0)	267 (5.5)
	Nation	218 (1.2)	165 (1.6) <	194 (2.0)	222 (2.3)	245 (1.4)	264 (2.1)

The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500. The standard errors of the statistics appear in parentheses. It can be said with about 95 percent confidence that, for each population of interest, the value for the entire population is within ± 2 standard errors of the estimate for the sample. In comparing two estimates, one must use the standard error of the difference (see Appendix A for details). If the notation > (<) appears, it signifies that the value for public school students in 1994 was significantly higher (lower) than the value for 1992 at about the 95 percent confidence level.

Proficiency According to Purpose for Reading

Table 2.5 provides a summary of results according to each of the two purposes for reading by race/ethnicity, type of location, parents' education level, and gender for public school students.

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[19] Ian Plewis, "Pupils' Progress in Reading and Mathematics During Primary School: Associations with Ethnic Group and Sex," in *Educational Researcher, 33* (1991), pp. 133-140; Gita Z. Wilder and Kristin Powell, *Sex Differences in Test Performance: A Survey of the Literature* (New York: College Entrance Examination Board, 1989).

TABLE 2.5

Fourth-Grade Public School Students' Average Reading Proficiency According to Purpose for Reading by Subpopulation

		Reading for Literary Experience		Reading to Gain Information	
		1992	1994	1992	1994
		Proficiency			
RACE/ETHNICITY					
White	Wisconsin	230 (1.1)	229 (1.2)	224 (1.1)	227 (1.3)
	Central	225 (1.9)	227 (2.9)	222 (2.1)	222 (2.9)
	Nation	225 (1.3)	224 (1.4)	221 (1.6)	220 (1.4)
Black	Wisconsin	204 (3.6)	199 (2.4)	196 (2.4)	194 (6.6)
	Central	188 (3.4)	187 (6.3)	184 (3.8)	176 (6.9)
	Nation	195 (1.6)	190 (2.1)	188 (1.9)	181 (1.6) <
Hispanic	Wisconsin	213 (3.7)	205 (4.7)	207 (3.7)	201 (5.8)
	Central	212 (5.2)	203 (7.1)	205 (4.6)	194 (6.7)
	Nation	204 (2.5)	191 (2.8) <	193 (2.2)	185 (2.7)
TYPE OF LOCATION *					
Central City	Wisconsin	224 (2.6)	222 (2.6)	219 (2.0)	219 (3.1)
	Nation	210 (1.5)	206 (2.6)	203 (1.8)	201 (2.3)
Urb Fringe/Lrg Town	Wisconsin	227 (1.4)	225 (1.8)	222 (2.3)	226 (2.3)
	Nation	221 (2.1)	220 (2.0)	217 (2.4)	217 (2.1)
Rural/Small Town	Wisconsin	227 (1.9)	227 (1.9)	221 (2.0)	225 (2.2)
	Nation	220 (2.2)	216 (2.0)	214 (3.0)	210 (2.1)
PARENTS' EDUCATION					
College graduate	Wisconsin	233 (1.8)	233 (1.9)	228 (1.6)	233 (2.1)
	Central	224 (2.8)	228 (3.0)	222 (2.7)	223 (3.4)
	Nation	225 (1.6)	224 (1.5)	221 (1.7)	220 (1.4)
Some educ after HS	Wisconsin	232 (2.8)	231 (2.9)	233 (2.6)	223 (2.5)
	Central	225 (5.0)	223 (5.6)	222 (3.2)	218 (5.1)
	Nation	224 (2.8)	224 (2.4)	218 (2.2)	218 (2.5)
HS graduate	Wisconsin	222 (1.9)	225 (2.9)	217 (1.9)	220 (2.8)
	Central	217 (4.0)	217 (4.2)	211 (3.8)	213 (4.4)
	Nation	214 (2.0)	208 (2.1)	207 (2.0)	205 (2.0)
HS non-graduate	Wisconsin	215 (4.6)	219 (3.9)	209 (3.7)	204 (5.6)
	Central	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)
	Nation	202 (3.0)	189 (3.4) <	192 (2.7)	186 (4.4)
I don't know	Wisconsin	220 (1.5)	217 (1.9)	212 (1.9)	216 (2.0)
	Central	214 (2.2)	213 (3.4)	211 (2.6)	206 (3.3)
	Nation	212 (1.3)	207 (1.3)	206 (1.5)	201 (1.6)
GENDER					
Male	Wisconsin	223 (1.3)	221 (1.4)	218 (1.3)	221 (1.7)
	Central	217 (2.0)	214 (2.6)	215 (1.7)	210 (2.9)
	Nation	213 (1.5)	208 (1.4) <	209 (1.5)	206 (1.5)
Female	Wisconsin	229 (1.3)	229 (1.6)	223 (1.4)	225 (1.7)
	Central	222 (2.6)	228 (3.3)	218 (2.4)	221 (3.2)
	Nation	222 (1.0)	221 (1.3)	215 (1.4)	214 (1.2)

* School sample size is insufficient to permit reliable regional results for type of location.

The NAEP "purpose for reading" scales range from 0 to 500. The standard errors of the statistics appear in parentheses. It can be said with about 95 percent confidence that, for each population of interest, the value for the entire population is within ± 2 standard errors of the estimate for the sample. In comparing two estimates, one must use the standard error of the difference (see Appendix A for details). If the notation > (<) appears, it signifies that the value for public school students in 1994 was significantly higher (lower) than the value for 1992 at about the 95 percent confidence level.

*** Sample size is insufficient to permit a reliable estimate.

PART TWO

Reading Achievement Levels

While providing information about what students can do in reading is essential for understanding the current state of reading performance, it is also important to determine whether students' present performance is adequate. Knowing what students *can do* is made even more relevant by also looking at what students *should be able to do*. For that reason, the National Assessment Governing Board (NAGB) has provided NAEP with achievement levels in reading that set standards for performance in reading at grades 4, 8, and 12.

This report presents data using the student achievement levels as authorized by the NAEP legislation and adopted by the National Assessment Governing Board (NAGB).[20] The achievement levels are based on collective judgments, gathered from a broadly representative panel of teachers, education specialists, and members of the general public, about what students should know and be able to do relative to a body of content reflected in the NAEP assessment frameworks. For reporting purposes, the achievement level cut scores are placed on the traditional NAEP scale. For each grade, the results divide the scale into four ranges — *Basic, Proficient, and Advanced*, as well as the region *below Basic*.

Initiated in 1990, the levels have been used to report the national and state results in mathematics in 1990 and 1992, as well as in reading in 1992 and 1994. The reading achievement levels were developed by American College Testing (ACT) under contract with NAGB. While setting student achievement levels on the National Assessment is relatively new and developing, the achievement levels are consistent with recent education reform efforts. Some state and local jurisdictions are also developing standards and reporting their test results using them.[21]

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[20] P.L. 103-382. Improving America's Schools Act of 1994.

[21] States such as Kentucky, Maryland, Colorado, Connecticut, and North Carolina all have standard-setting initiatives resulting in student achievement levels.

Despite the commitment to standards-based reporting of NAEP data, the transition is incomplete. There have been some critical reviews and congressionally mandated evaluations that cast doubt on the interpretability of achievement levels and also on the applicability of the underlying technical methodology used to develop them. These studies were conducted by the General Accounting Office (GAO)[22] and the National Academy of Education (NAE).[23] Their findings question, for example, the application of the Angoff method for large scale assessments like NAEP, given the significant modifications required to accommodate the complexity of the NAEP item structure and the multiple cutpoints. They conclude that discretion should be used in making particular inferences about what students at each level actually know and can do. In addition, there were concerns that the proportion of students at certain levels, but particularly at the advanced levels, may be underestimated.

On the other hand, the Angoff procedure is the most widely documented, researched, and frequently used method in the standard-setting field. Many well-known experts support the use of a modified-Angoff method on NAEP. Several critics of the NAE studies,[24] for example, have reaffirmed the integrity of the process employed by the Board and have concluded that the weight of the empirical evidence presented does not support the NAE's conclusions about achievement levels or the use of the modified-Angoff process. In addition, the Council of Chief State School Officers' advisory panel of state assessment directors, fully aware of the NAE's conclusions, supported the use of the achievement levels to report the 1994 reading results.[25]

Taken together, the results of the various studies suggest the need for further research and development. To that end, ACT, the NAGB contractor, recently conducted a study in anticipation of the 1994 NAEP reading reports. The study sought to examine the congruence between the reading assessment framework and the descriptions of reading performance embodied in the levels.[26] Two different methodologies were used: (1) evaluation of the achievement level descriptions *via* statistical item mapping, and (2) evaluation of the achievement level descriptions *via* judgmental item mapping. It was the consensus of the participants that the reading achievement level descriptions were, in general, consistent with the framework and the 1994 NAEP reading assessment results. However, minor modifications were suggested by the study panelists. These modifications were incorporated into the 1994 achievement level descriptions.

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[22] General Accounting Office. *Educational Achievement Standards: NAGB's Approach Yields Misleading Interpretations* (Washington, DC, 1993).

[23] National Academy of Education. *Setting Performance Standards for Student Achievement.* (Stanford, CA: National Academy of Education, 1993).

[24] American College Testing. *Technical Report on Setting Achievement Levels on the 1992 National Assessment of Educational Progress in Mathematics, Reading, and Writing.* (Washington, DC: National Assessment Governing Board, 1993); G. Cizak. *Reactions to the National Academy of Education Report.* (Washington, DC: National Assessment Governing Board, 1993); M. Kane. *Comments on the NAE Evaluation of the NAGB Achievement Levels.* (Washington, DC: National Assessment Governing Board, 1993).

[25] Education Information Advisory Committee of the Council of Chief State School Officers. *A Resolution of the Education Information Advisory Committee.* (Alexandria, VA, 1994).

[26] American College Testing. *Technical Report on the 1992 NAEP Reading Re-visit Study.* (Iowa City, IA: American College Testing, 1995).

It should be noted that the ACT study did not address the applicability of the modified-Angoff procedure for the 1994 reading assessment. Nor did it focus on the reasonableness of actual achievement level cut scores. However, NAGB continues to explore new and innovative methodologies for standard setting for NAEP. In addition, proceedings from a standard-setting conference held in the fall of 1994, jointly sponsored by NCES and NAGB, are due to be released in the fall of 1995. Given the array of nationally known experts in attendance, the findings will undoubtedly provide additional insight into this issue.

In sum, the student achievement levels in this report have been developed carefully and responsibly, and have been subject to refinements and revisions in procedures as new technologies have become available. However, standards-based reporting for NAEP data is still in transition. The NAEP legislation states that the student achievement levels shall be ". . . developed through a national consensus approach . . . used on a developmental basis, . . . and updated as appropriate." It requires that their developmental status be clearly stated in NAEP reports. Upon review of the available information, the Commissioner of NCES has judged that the achievement levels are in a developmental status. However, the Commissioner and the Governing Board also believe that the achievement levels are useful and valuable in reporting on the educational achievement of American students.

Part Two of this report focuses on results of the 1994 Trial State Assessment Program in terms of the NAGB achievement levels. Chapter 3 provides an overview of the achievement level descriptors. In addition, the percentages of public school students in Wisconsin, the Central region, and across the nation who performed at or above each of the achievement levels in 1994 and 1992 are presented. Chapter 4 expands on these results by presenting achievement level data for subgroups — race/ethnicity, type of location, level of parents' education, and gender.

CHAPTER 3

Students' Reading Achievement

The most recent reauthorization of the National Assessment Governing Board (NAGB) continues the Board's responsibilities to set policy for NAEP and to "develop appropriate student achievement levels for each age and grade in subject areas tested" (Pub. L. 103-382). As a result, students' reading proficiencies presented in the previous section can be viewed in the context of established goals for performance. This report next presents results based on the National Assessment Governing Board's goals for students' achievement on the NAEP reading scale.[27]

Achievement goals are determined through collective judgments about how students *should* perform. These judgments are associated with specific points on the NAEP scale that serve to identify boundaries between levels of achievement for each grade — Basic, Proficient, and Advanced. Performance at the Basic level denotes partial mastery of the knowledge and skills that are fundamental for proficient work. The central level, called Proficient, represents solid academic performance. Students reaching this level demonstrate competency over challenging subject matter. Performance at the Advanced level signifies superior performance beyond proficient grade-level mastery. In this report, the proportion of students attaining the three achievement levels is presented for both the 1994 and 1992 assessments.

Definitions of the three levels of reading achievement are given in Figure 3.1. Examples of questions at the achievement levels are also provided. The reading passages that accompany these questions can be found in Appendix B. It should be noted that constructed-response questions occur at all levels of reading achievement.

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[27] Appendix C briefly describes the process of gathering expert judgments about Basic, Proficient, and Advanced performance — as defined by NAGB policy — on each reading item, combining the various judgments on the various items and mapping them onto the scale, and setting the scale score cutpoints for reporting purposes based on these levels.

FIGURE 3.1

Levels of Reading Achievement at Grade 4

The following achievement level descriptions focus on the interaction of the reader, the text, and the context. They provide some specific examples of reading behaviors that should be familiar to most readers of this document. The specific examples are not inclusive; their purpose is to help clarify and differentiate what readers performing at each achievement level *should be able to do*. While a number of other reading achievement indicators exist at every level, space and efficiency preclude an exhaustive listing. The achievement levels are cumulative from Basic to Proficient to Advanced. One level builds on the previous levels such that knowledge at the Proficient level presumes mastery of the Basic level, and knowledge at the Advanced level presumes mastery of both the Basic and Proficient levels.

BASIC LEVEL (208)	Fourth-grade students performing at the **Basic level** *should demonstrate an understanding of the overall meaning of what they read.* When reading texts appropriate for fourth graders, *they should be able to make relatively obvious connections between the text and their own experiences and extend the ideas in the text by making simple inferences.*

For example, when reading **literary text**, Basic-level students should be able to tell what the story is generally about — providing details to support their understanding — and be able to connect aspects of the stories to their own experiences.

When reading **informational text**, Basic-level fourth graders should be able to tell what the selection is generally about or identify the purpose for reading it; provide details to support their understanding; and connect ideas from the text to their background knowledge and experiences.

PROFICIENT LEVEL (238)	Fourth-grade students performing at the **Proficient level** *should be able to demonstrate an overall understanding of the text, providing inferential as well as literal information.* When reading text appropriate to fourth grade, *they should be able to extend the ideas in the text by making inferences, drawing conclusions, and making connections to their own experiences. The connection between the text and what the student infers should be clear.*

Specifically, when reading **literary text**, Proficient-level fourth graders should be able to summarize the story, draw conclusions about the characters or plot, and recognize relationships such as cause and effect.

When reading **informational text**, Proficient-level students should be able to summarize the information and identify the author's intent or purpose. They should be able to draw reasonable conclusions from the text, recognize relationships such as cause and effect or similarities and differences, and identify the meaning of the selection's key concepts.

ADVANCED LEVEL (268)	Fourth-grade students performing at the **Advanced level** *should be able to generalize about topics in the reading selection and demonstrate an awareness of how authors compose and use literary devices.* When reading text appropriate to fourth grade, they *should be able to judge texts critically and, in general, give thorough answers that indicate careful thought.*

Specifically, when reading **literary text**, Advanced-level students should be able to make generalizations about the point of the story and extend its meaning by integrating personal and other reading experiences with the ideas suggested by the text. They should be able to identify literary devices such as figurative language.

When reading **informational text**, Advanced-level fourth graders should be able to explain the author's intent by using supporting material from the text. They should be able to make critical judgments of the text (including its form and content) and explain their judgments clearly.

FIGURE 3.1 (continued)

Levels of Reading Achievement at Grade 4

The following questions were selected as examples of the types of questions that students at each of the three achievement levels can respond to effectively. The example questions were selected from the 1992 or 1994 NAEP reading assessments. These questions are based on the stories "Sybil Sounds the Alarm" and "Hungry Spider and the Turtle," which are shown in their entirety in Appendix B. "Sybil Sounds the Alarm" is a fictional account of a historical event that describes the courage of a young colonial girl in riding her horse to warn of the approaching British army. "Hungry Spider and the Turtle" is a fable that presents a humorous portrayal of two characters and the jokes they play on each other. Both stories were used to assess reading for literary experience.

For the multiple-choice questions, the correct answer is marked with an asterisk. For the constructed-response questions, a description of acceptable answers is provided. Also shown are the national overall percent correct and the percent correct for the students performing within the interval of the indicated level. For example, students with an average reading proficiency in the range 208-237 are in the Basic *interval*: at or above the cutpoint for the Basic level and below the cutpoint for the Proficient level.

Samples of student responses to these and other constructed-response questions in the NAEP reading assessment appear in the *Reading Assessment Redesigned*[28] report which provides an in-depth look at the assessment materials and tasks. Also, a presentation of sample student responses can be found in the *1994 NAEP Reading Report Card*.

BASIC LEVEL **Example Question**	*Sybil Sounds the Alarm*

Sybil's father thought that she

A. was obedient but forgetful
* B. was courageous and a good rider
C. could lead the troops against the British
D. could easily become angry

1992 Overall Percentage Correct		**1992 Conditional Percentage Correct for Basic Interval**	
Nation	71 (1.4)	Nation	75 (2.4)

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[28] J.A. Langer, J.R. Campbell, S.B. Neuman, I.V.S. Mullis, H.R. Persky, and P.L. Donahue. *Reading Assessment Redesigned* (Washington, DC: National Center for Education Statistics, 1995).

FIGURE 3.1 (continued)

Levels of Reading Achievement at Grade 4

BASIC LEVEL Example Question	*Hungry Spider and the Turtle*

Who do you think would make a better friend, Spider or Turtle? Explain why.

Acceptable responses indicated which character would make a better friend and provided appropriate evidence from the story in support of the selection.

1994 Overall Percentage Acceptable		1994 Conditional Percentage Acceptable for Basic Interval	
Nation	62 (1.4)	Nation	68 (2.3)

PROFICIENT LEVEL Example Question	*Sybil Sounds the Alarm*

The information about the statue and stamp helps to show that

- * A. people today recognize and respect Sybil's bravery
- B. people were surprised that George Washington honored her
- C. the author included minor details
- D. heroes are honored more now than they were then

1992 Overall Percentage Correct		1992 Conditional Percentage Correct for Proficient Interval	
Nation	62 (1.5)	Nation	87 (3.4)

FIGURE 3.1 (continued)

Levels of Reading Achievement at Grade 4

PROFICIENT LEVEL Example Question	*Hungry Spider and the Turtle*

What do Turtle's actions at Spider's house tell you about Turtle?

Acceptable responses provided a description of Turtle that is consistent with the traits portrayed by the character in a specific part of the story.

1994 Overall Percentage Acceptable		1994 Conditional Percentage Acceptable for Proficient Interval	
Nation	41 (1.4)	Nation	64 (3.0)

ADVANCED LEVEL Example Question	*Sybil Sounds the Alarm*

How does the author show the excitement and danger of Sybil's ride?

Acceptable responses described a specific element of the author's portrayal of Sybil that contributed to the story's atmosphere and tone.

1992 Overall Percentage Acceptable		1992 Conditional Percentage Acceptable for Advanced Interval	
Nation	44 (1.7)	Nation	83 (4.9)

FIGURE 3.1 (continued)

Levels of Reading Achievement at Grade 4

ADVANCED LEVEL Example Question	*Hungry Spider and the Turtle*

Think about Spider and Turtle in the story. Pick someone you know, have read about, or have seen in the movies or on television and explain how that person is like either Spider or Turtle.

Responses that were rated as *Essential or better* demonstrated adequate understanding of the character of Spider or Turtle by providing any story-supported character trait and relating or linking that trait to a real world person or character.

1994 Overall Percentage Essential or Better		**1994 Conditional Percentage Essential or Better for Advanced Interval**	
Nation	29 (1.3)	Nation	73 (8.6)

Table 3.1 provides the percentage of fourth-grade public school students at or above each achievement level, as well as the percentage of students below the Basic level.

1994, Public School Students

The percentage of public school students in Wisconsin who were at or above the Proficient level (35 percent) was higher than that of students across the nation (28 percent).

1992 vs 1994, Public School Students

From 1992 to 1994, there was no significant change in the percentage of public school students in Wisconsin who attained the Proficient level (33 percent in 1992 and 35 percent in 1994). Similarly, there was no significant change in the percentage of public school students across the nation who attained the Proficient level (27 percent in 1992 and 28 percent in 1994).

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TABLE 3.1

Levels of Fourth-Grade Public School Students' Reading Achievement

	At or Above Advanced	At or Above Proficient	At or Above Basic	Below Basic
	Percentage			
1992 Public				
Wisconsin	6 (0.6)	33 (1.3)	71 (1.3)	29 (1.3)
Central	6 (1.2)	29 (2.4)	65 (1.9)	35 (1.9)
Nation	6 (0.6)	27 (1.3)	60 (1.1)	40 (1.1)
1994 Public				
Wisconsin	7 (0.7)	35 (1.6)	71 (1.6)	29 (1.6)
Central	7 (1.4)	33 (2.8)	65 (3.0)	35 (3.0)
Nation	7 (0.7)	28 (1.2)	59 (1.1)	41 (1.1)

The standard errors of the statistics appear in parentheses. It can be said with about 95 percent confidence that, for each population of interest, the value for the entire population is within ± 2 standard errors of the estimate for the sample. In comparing two estimates, one must use the standard error of the difference (see Appendix A for details). If the notation > (<) appears, it signifies that the value for public school students in 1994 was significantly higher (lower) than the value for 1992 at about the 95 percent confidence level.

Many students in Wisconsin were unable to meet the Proficient achievement level that represents solid academic performance in reading. Educators and policy makers will need to look to many sources of information and opinion for explanations of these levels of achievement. Among the possible explanations, several factors should not be overlooked. First, students may not be learning enough in school to reach the achievement levels. In 1983, the National Commission on Excellence in Education warned that "the educational foundations of our society are being eroded by a rising tide of mediocrity that threatens our very future."[29] In 1990, the president and the governors committed the nation to six goals for education, the third of which called for American students to "leave grades four, eight and twelve having demonstrated competency in challenging subject matter."[30] Many political leaders of this nation continue to express dissatisfaction with the performance of American students. These NAEP findings confirm that a great many American students are not yet performing at high levels.

Second, some students may not be reaching the higher achievement levels because schools may not be teaching the elements of reading that are included on the NAEP assessment, and because the assessment may not be covering some elements of reading included in the school curriculum. No assessment or test can cover all the different areas of reading that are taught in school. The content coverage of the NAEP reading assessment was set by a consensus approach. Teachers, curriculum specialists, subject matter specialists, local school administrators, parents, and members of the general public actively participated in deciding what are the most important elements of reading to be included in the assessment and for students to learn.[31]

Third, the Basic, Proficient, and Advanced achievement levels reflect high standards for the 1994 NAEP reading scale. The establishment of achievement levels depends on securing a set of informed judgments of expectations for student educational achievement and on summarizing the individual ratings into collective judgments. These expectations reflect the Board's policy definitions, which require that students at the central, Proficient level demonstrate "competency over challenging subject matter." The resulting standards are rigorous.

As measures of performance, both average proficiency scores and percentages of students who score at or above the critical achievement levels on the NAEP scale provide a valuable overall depiction of students' reading ability.

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[29] National Commission on Excellence in Education. *A Nation at Risk*. (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Education, 1983). In 1988, then-Secretary Bennett reported that the "precipitous downward slide of previous decades has been arrested, and we have begun the long climb back to reasonable standards." (p. 1 in *American Education: Making it Work*. (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Education, 1988).)

[30] U.S. Department of Education. *America 2000: An Education Strategy*. (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Education, 1991).

[31] NAEP Reading Consensus Project. *Reading Framework for the 1992 and 1994 National Assessment of Educational Progress*. (Washington, DC: National Assessment Governing Board, U.S. Department of Education, 1994).

CHAPTER 4

Reading Achievement of Fourth-Grade Students by Subpopulations

Assessment results repeatedly show differences in performance for subpopulations of students.[15] This chapter presents achievement level results for subgroups of public school students from Wisconsin defined by race/ethnicity, type of location, level of parents' education, and gender.

Race/Ethnicity

Table 4.1 provides the percentage of public school students at or above each of the three achievement levels and also the percentage below the Basic level for White, Black, and Hispanic students.

1994, Public School Students

In 1994, the percentage of White students in Wisconsin who attained the Proficient level was greater than that of Black and Hispanic students.

1992 vs 1994, Public School Students

There was no significant change between 1992 and 1994 in the percentage of White, Black, and Hispanic public school students in Wisconsin who performed at or above the Proficient level.

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[15] Ina V.S. Mullis, John A. Dossey, Jay R. Campbell, Claudia A. Gentile, Christine O'Sullivan, and Andrew S. Latham, *NAEP 1992 Trends in Academic Progress*. (Washington, DC: National Center for Education Statistics, 1994).

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TABLE 4.1

Levels of Fourth-Grade Public School Students' Reading Achievement by Race/Ethnicity

		At or Above Advanced	At or Above Proficient	At or Above Basic	Below Basic
		Percentage			
White					
1992	Wisconsin	7 (0.7)	37 (1.5)	75 (1.3)	25 (1.3)
	Central	7 (1.5)	33 (2.9)	71 (1.8)	29 (1.8)
	Nation	8 (1.0)	33 (1.9)	70 (1.5)	30 (1.5)
1994	Wisconsin	8 (0.7)	39 (1.7)	76 (1.4)	24 (1.4)
	Central	9 (1.7)	37 (3.2)	71 (3.0)	29 (3.0)
	Nation	9 (0.9)	35 (1.5)	69 (1.3)	31 (1.3)
Black					
1992	Wisconsin	1 (0.8)	10 (2.5)	41 (4.4)	59 (4.4)
	Central	0 (0.7)	4 (2.0)	28 (4.5)	72 (4.5)
	Nation	1 (0.5)	8 (1.4)	32 (2.1)	68 (2.1)
1994	Wisconsin	0 (0.7)	9 (2.5)	39 (6.5)	61 (6.5)
	Central	0 (0.4)	7 (2.0)	28 (8.6)	72 (8.6)
	Nation	1 (0.4)	8 (0.9)	30 (2.5)	70 (2.5)
Hispanic					
1992	Wisconsin	2 (1.1)	17 (2.7)	56 (4.8)	44 (4.8)
	Central	6 (3.8)	23 (5.6)	54 (7.4)	46 (7.4)
	Nation	2 (1.0)	14 (1.8)	42 (2.1)	58 (2.1)
1994	Wisconsin	1 (1.6)	14 (3.5)	46 (6.3)	54 (6.3)
	Central	3 (1.5)	23 (7.8)	42 (10.1)	58 (10.1)
	Nation	2 (0.7)	12 (1.6)	33 (2.6)	67 (2.6)

The standard errors of the statistics appear in parentheses. It can be said with about 95 percent confidence that, for each population of interest, the value for the entire population is within ± 2 standard errors of the estimate for the sample. In comparing two estimates, one must use the standard error of the difference (see Appendix A for details). If the notation > (<) appears, it signifies that the value for public school students in 1994 was significantly higher (lower) than the value for 1992 at about the 95 percent confidence level.

Type of Location

Table 4.2 presents reading performance by achievement levels for fourth-grade students attending public schools in central cities, urban fringe/large towns, and rural areas/small towns.

> ***1994, Public School Students***
>
> In Wisconsin, the percentage of students attending public schools in central cities who attained the Proficient level was not significantly different from that of students in urban fringe/large towns or rural areas/small towns.
>
> ***1992 vs 1994, Public School Students***
>
> From 1992 to 1994, there was no significant change in the percentage of students attending public schools in central cities, urban fringe/large towns, or rural areas/small towns in Wisconsin who attained the Proficient level.

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TABLE 4.2

Levels of Fourth-Grade Public School Students' Reading Achievement by Type of Location

		At or Above Advanced	At or Above Proficient	At or Above Basic	Below Basic
		Percentage			
Central City					
1992	Wisconsin	8 (1.5)	32 (2.8)	67 (2.8)	33 (2.8)
	Nation	4 (0.7)	20 (1.4)	51 (2.0)	49 (2.0)
1994	Wisconsin	7 (1.4)	33 (2.9)	67 (3.2)	33 (3.2)
	Nation	5 (0.9)	22 (2.0)	50 (2.7)	50 (2.7)
Urban Fringe/Large Town					
1992	Wisconsin	5 (1.2)	35 (2.6)	73 (2.3)	27 (2.3)
	Nation	7 (1.2)	31 (2.6)	65 (2.5)	35 (2.5)
1994	Wisconsin	7 (1.5)	37 (3.1)	73 (2.3)	27 (2.3)
	Nation	8 (1.1)	33 (2.0)	65 (1.8)	35 (1.8)
Rural/Small Town					
1992	Wisconsin	5 (1.0)	34 (2.3)	72 (2.5)	28 (2.5)
	Nation	5 (1.5)	27 (2.7)	64 (2.5)	36 (2.5)
1994	Wisconsin	8 (1.1)	36 (2.3)	73 (2.4)	27 (2.4)
	Nation	6 (0.7)	27 (2.0)	59 (2.6)	41 (2.6)

School sample size is insufficient to permit reliable regional results for type of location.

The standard errors of the statistics appear in parentheses. It can be said with about 95 percent confidence that, for each population of interest, the value for the entire population is within ± 2 standard errors of the estimate for the sample. In comparing two estimates, one must use the standard error of the difference (see Appendix A for details). If the notation > (<) appears, it signifies that the value for public school students in 1994 was significantly higher (lower) than the value for 1992 at about the 95 percent confidence level.

Parents' Education Level

Table 4.3 shows the reading achievement level results for fourth-grade public school students who reported that at least one parent graduated from college, at least one parent had some education after high school, at least one parent graduated from high school, neither parent graduated from high school, or they did not know their parents' education level.

1994, Public School Students

In Wisconsin, the percentage of students reporting that at least one parent graduated from college who performed at or above the Proficient level was not significantly different from that of students who reported that at least one parent had some education after high school but was larger than that of students who reported that at least one parent graduated from high school, neither parent graduated from high school, or they did not know their parents' education level.

1992 vs 1994, Public School Students

The percentage of public school students in Wisconsin who reported that at least one parent graduated from college, at least one parent had some education after high school, at least one parent graduated from high school, neither parent graduated from high school, or they did not know their parents' education level who attained the Proficient level did not change significantly between 1992 and 1994.

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TABLE 4.3

Levels of Fourth-Grade Public School Students' Reading Achievement by Parents' Level of Education

		At or Above Advanced	At or Above Proficient	At or Above Basic	Below Basic
		Percentage			
College graduate					
1992	Wisconsin	10 (1.2)	43 (2.6)	78 (2.1)	22 (2.1)
	Central	8 (1.9)	35 (3.6)	71 (3.7)	29 (3.7)
	Nation	10 (1.2)	36 (2.0)	68 (1.9)	32 (1.9)
1994	Wisconsin	11 (1.4)	47 (2.5)	79 (2.1)	21 (2.1)
	Central	11 (2.4)	40 (3.9)	72 (3.9)	28 (3.9)
	Nation	11 (1.3)	37 (1.9)	68 (1.5)	32 (1.5)
Some education after HS					
1992	Wisconsin	9 (1.6)	42 (4.0)	82 (2.9)	18 (2.9)
	Central	7 (4.3)	32 (7.4)	72 (4.4)	28 (4.4)
	Nation	8 (2.3)	32 (3.6)	68 (3.3)	32 (3.3)
1994	Wisconsin	8 (2.9)	39 (5.2)	75 (3.4)	25 (3.4)
	Central	7 (3.7)	36 (6.8)	71 (5.8)	29 (5.8)
	Nation	9 (2.1)	36 (2.9)	68 (3.2)	32 (3.2)
High school graduate					
1992	Wisconsin	3 (1.3)	27 (2.1)	67 (2.5)	33 (2.5)
	Central	3 (1.7)	22 (4.1)	62 (4.9)	38 (4.9)
	Nation	3 (1.1)	21 (2.3)	56 (2.3)	44 (2.3)
1994	Wisconsin	6 (1.8)	32 (3.5)	69 (3.8)	31 (3.8)
	Central	6 (3.4)	30 (4.4)	61 (4.5)	39 (4.5)
	Nation	4 (1.3)	22 (2.7)	54 (2.2)	46 (2.2)
High school non-graduate					
1992	Wisconsin	1 (1.1)	14 (5.5)	61 (7.3)	39 (7.3)
	Central	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)
	Nation	1 (1.4)	11 (2.4)	38 (3.9)	62 (3.9)
1994	Wisconsin	4 (2.7)	22 (6.4)	57 (7.4)	43 (7.4)
	Central	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)
	Nation	1 (1.3)	9 (2.4)	32 (4.1)	68 (4.1)
I don't know					
1992	Wisconsin	3 (0.6)	25 (2.1)	63 (2.0)	37 (2.0)
	Central	4 (1.4)	24 (3.1)	59 (2.3)	41 (2.3)
	Nation	3 (0.8)	20 (1.6)	54 (1.7)	46 (1.7)
1994	Wisconsin	3 (1.4)	25 (2.3)	64 (2.4)	36 (2.4)
	Central	4 (1.5)	25 (4.0)	57 (3.6)	43 (3.6)
	Nation	4 (0.7)	21 (1.7)	51 (1.4)	49 (1.4)

The standard errors of the statistics appear in parentheses. It can be said with about 95 percent confidence that, for each population of interest, the value for the entire population is within ± 2 standard errors of the estimate for the sample. In comparing two estimates, one must use the standard error of the difference (see Appendix A for details). If the notation > (<) appears, it signifies that the value for public school students in 1994 was significantly higher (lower) than the value for 1992 at about the 95 percent confidence level. *** Sample size is insufficient to permit a reliable estimate.

Gender

Table 4.4 provides the achievement level results by gender for fourth-grade public school students.

1994, Public School Students

The percentage of males in Wisconsin public schools who attained the Proficient level was smaller than that of females.

1992 vs 1994, Public School Students

There was no significant change in the percentage of males who performed at or above the Proficient level from 1992 to 1994. Similarly, there was no significant change in the percentage of females who were at or above the Proficient level from 1992 to 1994.

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TABLE 4.4

Levels of Fourth-Grade Public School Students' Reading Achievement by Gender

			At or Above Advanced	At or Above Proficient	At or Above Basic	Below Basic
			Percentage			
Male						
	1992	Wisconsin	5 (1.0)	30 (1.7)	68 (1.6)	32 (1.6)
		Central	5 (1.4)	27 (2.8)	62 (2.7)	38 (2.7)
		Nation	5 (0.7)	24 (1.5)	56 (1.7)	44 (1.7)
	1994	Wisconsin	5 (0.8)	31 (2.0)	67 (2.1)	33 (2.1)
		Central	6 (1.7)	27 (2.9)	59 (3.1)	41 (3.1)
		Nation	6 (0.8)	24 (1.3)	53 (1.5)	47 (1.5)
Female						
	1992	Wisconsin	7 (0.8)	37 (1.8)	73 (1.8)	27 (1.8)
		Central	7 (1.7)	30 (2.6)	67 (3.6)	33 (3.6)
		Nation	7 (0.9)	30 (1.5)	65 (1.5)	35 (1.5)
	1994	Wisconsin	9 (1.3)	39 (2.3)	75 (1.9)	25 (1.9)
		Central	9 (1.9)	39 (4.2)	71 (3.6)	29 (3.6)
		Nation	8 (0.9)	32 (1.6)	64 (1.3)	36 (1.3)

The standard errors of the statistics appear in parentheses. It can be said with about 95 percent confidence that, for each population of interest, the value for the entire population is within ± 2 standard errors of the estimate for the sample. In comparing two estimates, one must use the standard error of the difference (see Appendix A for details). If the notation > (<) appears, it signifies that the value for public school students in 1994 was significantly higher (lower) than the value for 1992 at about the 95 percent confidence level.

PART THREE

Finding a Context for Understanding Students' Reading Proficiency in Public Schools

Information on the reading proficiency of students in Wisconsin can be better understood and used for improving instruction and setting policy when supplemented with contextual information about schools, teachers, and students.

To gather contextual information, the fourth-grade students participating in the 1994 Trial State Assessment Program, their reading teachers, and the principals or other administrators in their schools were asked to complete questionnaires on instruction, programs, and policies. The student, teacher, and school data help to describe some of the current practices in reading education, to illuminate some of the factors that appear to be related to fourth-grade public school students' reading proficiency, and to provide an educational context for understanding information on student achievement.

It is important to note that the NAEP data cannot establish cause-and-effect links between various contextual factors and students' reading proficiency. However, the results do provide information about important relationships between the contextual factors and proficiency. Through the questionnaires administered to students, teachers, and principals, NAEP is able to provide a broad picture of educational practices prevalent in American schools and classrooms.

In order to improve and refine the NAEP questionnaires, some questions are revised and/or reformatted between assessments. Although this allows for more precise and relevant data collection, it makes the reporting of trend results on those particular questions at best difficult to interpret and at worst, impossible to accomplish. Some of the questions reported on in Chapters 5 through 7 were revised and/or reformatted for the 1994 assessment. In some cases the revisions, though relatively minor, were of sufficient magnitude to make comparisons with 1992 results difficult to interpret. For these questions, the results for both 1992 and 1994 are reported; however, no statistical comparisons were made, and changes from 1992 to 1994 are not discussed. Questions thus affected are indicated in the tables and the reader is cautioned to keep these question changes in mind when comparing 1992 and 1994 results. For other questions, substantial revisions make comparison to 1992 results unwise or impossible. For these questions, no 1992 data are reported.

Part Three consists of four chapters. Chapter 5 discusses policies and practices related to reading. Chapter 6 focuses on instructional approaches — how instruction is delivered. Chapter 7 provides information about teachers, and Chapter 8 examines students' home support for literacy.

CHAPTER 5

Policies and Practices Related to Reading

This chapter focuses on curricular and instructional content issues in Wisconsin public schools and their relationship to students' reading proficiency. Table 5.1 provides a profile of the reading policies and practices in the public schools with fourth grades in Wisconsin. Some of the selected results obtained from teacher and school questionnaires reveal:

- According to the public school administrators in Wisconsin in 1994, 87 percent of the fourth-grade students were in schools where reading was identified as receiving special emphasis. This percentage was not significantly different from that of students across the country (85 percent).

- In 1994, according to their reading teachers, 24 percent of the students in public schools in Wisconsin were typically taught reading in a class that was grouped by reading ability. The prevalence of ability grouping was not significantly different across the nation (22 percent).

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TABLE 5.1

Reading Policies and Practices in Fourth-Grade Public Schools

	Wisconsin	Central	Nation
	Percentage		
Percentage of students in public schools that identified **reading as a priority** in schoolwide goals and objectives, instruction, workshops, etc.*			
1992	84 (3.4)	86 (5.6)	86 (2.8)
1994	87 (3.8)	82 (5.3)	85 (2.7)
Percentage of students in public schools who are **assigned to a reading class by their ability***			
1992	30 (3.9)	28 (8.9)	34 (4.1)
1994	24 (4.0)	22 (7.6)	22 (2.9)
Percentage of students in public schools who **stay with the same teacher for all academic subjects**			
1992	37 (4.5)	49 (7.3)	48 (3.6)
1994	42 (5.4)	61 (10.2)	57 (4.1)
Percentage of students in public schools who **remain with one teacher for most subjects but may have a different teacher for one or two subjects**			
1992	61 (4.5)	42 (6.6)	42 (3.9)
1994	56 (5.2)	39 (10.2)	37 (4.0)
Percentage of students in public schools in which **a reading curriculum specialist is available to help or advise**			
1992	93 (1.9)	66 (6.5)	64 (3.2)
1994	95 (1.4)	63 (5.9)	67 (2.9)
Percentage of students in public schools that **use parents as aides in classrooms**			
1992	92 (2.6)	88 (5.4)	89 (2.6)
1994	94 (2.6)	85 (4.8)	88 (2.3)

* The question associated with this variable was reformatted in 1994. No trend comparison tests were conducted.

The standard errors of the statistics appear in parentheses. It can be said with about 95 percent confidence that, for each population of interest, the value for the entire population is within ± 2 standard errors of the estimate for the sample. In comparing two estimates, one must use the standard error of the difference (see Appendix A for details). If the notation > (<) appears, it signifies that the value for public school students in 1994 was significantly higher (lower) than the value for 1992 at about the 95 percent confidence level.

Time for Instructional Activities

To begin to place students' reading proficiency in context, it is useful to examine the extent to which fourth-grade students' reading teachers in Wisconsin are spending their time on instructional activities. Teachers of the assessed students were asked to report on the amount of time they spent with each class for reading instruction on a typical day. Table 5.2 shows the results for public school students.[33]

- In 1994, the percentage of students in Wisconsin who had reading teachers who spent 60 minutes providing reading instruction each day (63 percent) was larger than that across the nation (44 percent).
- In Wisconsin in 1994, average reading proficiency was higher for students whose teachers spent 60 minutes on reading instruction than for students whose teachers spent 90 minutes or more on reading instruction each day.

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TABLE 5.2

Public School Teachers' Reports on Time Spent Teaching Reading

*About how much time do you spend for reading instruction on a typical day?**	Wisconsin	Central	Nation
	Percentage and Proficiency		
45 minutes or less			
1992	17 (2.5) 221 (3.3)	24 (7.3) 215 (3.3)!	29 (3.2) 216 (2.2)
1994	19 (3.2) 225 (2.8)	34 (5.0) 218 (4.4)	37 (2.5) 215 (2.1)
60 minutes			
1992	64 (3.3) 226 (1.0)	67 (8.6) 222 (3.0)	52 (3.4) 217 (1.8)
1994	63 (3.8) 226 (1.4)	55 (6.6) 222 (3.5)	44 (2.7) 217 (1.8)
90 minutes or more			
1992	18 (2.9) 218 (2.7)	9 (2.1) 213 (4.9)!	19 (1.8) 213 (2.5)
1994	18 (2.9) 218 (2.5)	11 (4.3) 204 (14.6)!	19 (1.9) 200 (4.0)

* The question associated with this variable was reformatted in 1994. No trend comparison tests were conducted.

The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500. The standard errors of the statistics appear in parentheses. It can be said with about 95 percent confidence that, for each population of interest, the value for the entire population is within ± 2 standard errors of the estimate for the sample. In comparing two estimates, one must use the standard error of the difference (see Appendix A for details). ! Interpret with caution — the nature of the sample does not allow accurate determination of the variability of this statistic.

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[33] For every table in the body of the report that includes estimates of average proficiency, the Data Appendix provides a corresponding table presenting the results for the four subpopulations — race/ethnicity, type of location, parents' education level, and gender.

Instructional Resources for Reading

Teachers' use of resources is obviously constrained by the availability of those resources. Thus, the assessed students' teachers were asked about the extent to which they were able to obtain all of the instructional materials and other resources they needed. From Table 5.3:

- In 1994, the percentage of fourth-grade students in public schools in Wisconsin who were being taught by teachers who reported getting all of the resources they needed (12 percent) did not differ significantly from the corresponding percentage of students across the nation (9 percent).
- Furthermore, in 1994, the percentage of public school students in Wisconsin whose teachers got only some or none of the resources they needed (27 percent) did not differ significantly from* that of students across the nation (35 percent).
- In 1994, public school students in Wisconsin whose teachers got all of the resources they needed had an average reading proficiency (225) which was not significantly different from that of students whose teachers got only some or none of the resources they needed (224).
- From 1992 to 1994, there was no significant change in the percentage of students in Wisconsin whose teachers reported getting all of the resources they needed. There was no significant change in the percentage of students whose teachers got only some or none of the resources they needed during this same time.

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* Although the difference may appear large, recall that "significance" here refers to "statistical significance." (See Appendix A for further discussion.)

TABLE 5.3

Public School Teachers' Reports on the Availability of Resources

Which of the following statements is true about how well your school system provides you with the instructional materials and other resources you need to teach your class?	Wisconsin	Central	Nation
	Percentage and Proficiency		
I get all the resources I need.			
1992	12 (2.2) 222 (2.7)	14 (5.0) 223 (3.9)!	11 (1.7) 220 (3.1)
1994	12 (2.3) 225 (2.4)	8 (4.0) 227 (13.2)!	9 (1.7) 225 (3.7)
I get most of the resources I need.			
1992	60 (2.9) 224 (1.2)	58 (5.6) 220 (2.9)	51 (2.9) 218 (1.7)
1994	61 (3.6) 224 (1.6)	58 (6.3) 221 (2.8)	55 (2.7) 215 (1.6)
I get some or none of the resources I need.			
1992	28 (3.3) 222 (2.2)	28 (7.8) 217 (3.9)!	39 (3.5) 213 (1.6)
1994	27 (3.6) 224 (2.0)	34 (6.0) 214 (3.8)	35 (2.7) 208 (1.8)

The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500. The standard errors of the statistics appear in parentheses. It can be said with about 95 percent confidence that, for each population of interest, the value for the entire population is within ± 2 standard errors of the estimate for the sample. In comparing two estimates, one must use the standard error of the difference (see Appendix A for details). If the notation > (<) appears, it signifies that the value for public school students in 1994 was significantly higher (lower) than the value for 1992 at about the 95 percent confidence level. ! Interpret with caution — the nature of the sample does not allow accurate determination of the variability of this statistic.

CHAPTER 6

How Is Reading Instruction Delivered?

Effective classroom instruction can help students become thoughtful readers.[54] The instructional activities that students complete can also lead them to view reading in particular ways[55] and to focus their efforts on developing certain skills and strategies. To provide information about how instruction is delivered in Wisconsin, fourth-grade students participating in the Trial State Assessment Program and their reading teachers were asked to report on the use of various teaching and learning activities in their reading classrooms.

Instructional Materials for Reading

Basal reading programs are a traditional part of reading instruction in this country. They typically include a compilation of reading passages and exercises, as well as ancillary materials, such as workbooks and tests. These types of programs account for at least two-thirds of all expenditures for reading instruction and are used in more than 95 percent of all school districts through grade 6.[56] However, other types of reading programs may utilize trade books, such as story or informational books, that are not necessarily published for the sole purpose of reading instruction. When students encounter a variety of texts, they expand their general understanding of language, as well as their understanding of text and its underlying structures.[57] To provide information about instructional materials used for fourth-grade classes, students' reading teachers were asked to report about the type of materials that formed the core of their reading program. Table 6.1 provides the results.

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[54] A.P. Sweet. *Transforming Ideas for Teaching and Learning to Read.* (Washington, DC: Office of Educational Research and Improvement, 1993).

[55] J.A. Dole, G.G. Duffy, L.R. Roehler, and P.D. Pearson. "Moving from the Old to the New: Research on Reading Comprehension Instruction," in *Review of Educational Research, 61.* (1991). pp. 239-264.

[56] Jeanne S. Chall and James R. Squire. "The Publishing Industry and Textbooks," in R. Barr, M. Kamil, P. Mosenthal, and P.D. Pearson, Eds., *Handbook of Reading Research, Volume II.* (New York, NY: Longman, 1991).

[57] V. J. Harris. "Literature-Based Approaches to Reading Instruction," in *Review of Research in Education.* (Washington, DC: American Educational Research Association, 1993).

According to Wisconsin public school reading teachers, in 1994:

- Students in Wisconsin whose teachers used both basal and trade books demonstrated an average reading proficiency (226) which was higher than that of students whose teachers primarily used basal readers (217).
- The proficiency of Wisconsin students whose teachers used both basal and trade books (226) was not significantly different from that of students whose teachers primarily used trade books (226).
- The proficiency of Wisconsin students whose teachers primarily used trade books (226) was higher than that of students whose teachers primarily used basal readers (217).

TABLE 6.1

Public School Teachers' Reports on Instructional Materials for Reading

	Wisconsin	Central	Nation
*What type of materials form the core of your reading program?**	Percentage and Proficiency		
Primarily basal			
1992	25 (3.9) 224 (2.3)	30 (5.0) 217 (4.9)	33 (2.6) 213 (2.2)
1994	17 (3.2) 217 (3.3)	25 (5.5) 215 (3.9)!	18 (2.4) 208 (2.4)
Primarily trade books			
1992	13 (2.5) 227 (3.0)!	15 (4.9) 225 (2.9)!	13 (2.3) 222 (4.4)
1994	25 (3.9) 226 (2.0)	15 (4.1) 227 (3.8)!	20 (2.8) 218 (2.9)
Both basal and trade books			
1992	61 (4.2) 223 (1.2)	52 (7.5) 221 (2.2)	51 (3.6) 217 (1.4)
1994	56 (4.0) 226 (1.6)	59 (6.0) 220 (4.4)	59 (3.0) 214 (1.7)
Other			
1992	1 (0.4) *** (**.*)	2 (0.6) *** (**.*)	3 (1.1) 208 (6.3)!
1994	1 (0.3) *** (**.*)	1 (0.5) *** (**.*)	3 (0.7) 197 (6.1)!

* The question associated with this variable was reformatted in 1994. No trend comparison tests were conducted.

The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500. The standard errors of the statistics appear in parentheses. It can be said with about 95 percent confidence that, for each population of interest, the value for the entire population is within ± 2 standard errors of the estimate for the sample. In comparing two estimates, one must use the standard error of the difference (see Appendix A for details). ! Interpret with caution — the nature of the sample does not allow accurate determination of the variability of this statistic. *** Sample size is insufficient to permit a reliable estimate.

Teachers were also asked about their use of specific types of resources that can add depth and variety to the reading program (Table 6.2). Some selected results for public school students reveal that, in 1994:

- In Wisconsin, 37 percent of the fourth-grade students had reading teachers who used children's newspapers and/or magazines at least once a week. This percentage was not significantly different from* that for the nation (30 percent).

- The percentage of Wisconsin students who had reading teachers who used reading kits at least once a week (12 percent) was smaller than that for students in the nation (21 percent).

- The percentage of students in Wisconsin who had reading teachers who used computer software for reading instruction at least once a week (15 percent) was smaller than that for the nation (24 percent).

- In Wisconsin, 70 percent of the students had reading teachers who used a variety of books at least once a week. This figure was not significantly different from that for students across the nation (75 percent).

- The percentage of students in Wisconsin who had reading teachers who used materials from other subject areas at least once a week (61 percent) was smaller than that for the nation (69 percent).

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* Although the difference may appear large, recall that "significance" here refers to "statistical significance." (See Appendix A for further discussion.)

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TABLE 6.2

Public School Teachers' Reports on Resources for Reading Instruction

How often do you use the following resources to teach reading?*		Wisconsin	Central	Nation
		Percentage and Proficiency		
Children's newspapers and/or magazines				
At least once a week	1992	36 (3.7) 223 (1.6)	36 (7.4) 222 (2.4)	32 (3.2) 218 (2.2)
	1994	37 (4.0) 224 (2.0)	32 (6.4) 219 (4.3)!	30 (3.0) 213 (2.3)
Once or twice a month	1992	27 (3.3) 221 (2.2)	24 (4.6) 215 (3.5)!	32 (2.4) 213 (2.0)
	1994	32 (3.4) 222 (1.8)	30 (3.7) 215 (4.0)	36 (2.2) 212 (1.7)
Never or hardly ever	1992	37 (4.2) 226 (1.5)	40 (5.1) 221 (3.8)	36 (2.6) 218 (2.1)
	1994	31 (3.7) 227 (2.1)	38 (7.5) 222 (3.5)!	35 (2.8) 214 (2.2)
Reading kits				
At least once a week	1992	18 (2.6) 218 (3.0)	18 (5.2) 215 (6.4)!	22 (2.6) 210 (2.5)
	1994	12 (2.6) 221 (4.6)!	23 (5.1) 212 (6.2)!	21 (2.5) 206 (2.8)
Once or twice a month	1992	22 (3.4) 226 (2.4)	29 (5.7) 221 (4.1)	20 (2.4) 218 (2.2)
	1994	18 (2.7) 219 (2.4)	20 (4.1) 225 (2.8)!	21 (2.0) 214 (1.9)
Never or hardly ever	1992	60 (3.9) 225 (1.2)	53 (7.4) 221 (3.3)	58 (3.2) 218 (2.2)
	1994	69 (3.4) 226 (1.3)	57 (6.0) 220 (3.2)	58 (3.0) 216 (1.5)
Computer software for reading instruction				
At least once a week	1992	14 (2.4) 216 (3.0)	17 (5.4) 215 (4.0)!	25 (3.0) 212 (2.4)
	1994	15 (2.4) 217 (3.0)	15 (4.3) 219 (5.1)!	24 (2.3) 211 (2.4)
Once or twice a month	1992	21 (2.7) 223 (2.0)	30 (6.5) 218 (3.4)!	23 (2.7) 216 (2.6)
	1994	24 (3.5) 226 (2.3)	22 (6.2) 220 (4.8)!	22 (2.4) 219 (2.5)
Never or hardly ever	1992	65 (3.4) 226 (1.2)	53 (8.3) 221 (3.1)	52 (3.8) 218 (1.9)
	1994	61 (4.2) 225 (1.5)	63 (7.1) 219 (3.1)	55 (2.7) 213 (1.5)
A variety of books (e.g., novels, collections of poetry, nonfiction)				
At least once a week	1992	61 (3.6) 224 (1.3)	68 (4.4) 220 (2.4)	65 (3.1) 217 (1.8)
	1994	70 (3.5) 226 (1.3)	68 (4.8) 220 (4.0)	75 (2.2) 214 (1.4)
Once or twice a month	1992	30 (3.3) 223 (2.1)	24 (4.7) 219 (5.0)	26 (3.0) 216 (2.3)
	1994	27 (3.4) 221 (2.6)	23 (3.6) 221 (3.4)	21 (1.9) 214 (2.4)
Never or hardly ever	1992	9 (2.5) 225 (3.4)!	8 (3.3) *** (**.*)	9 (1.5) 210 (3.3)
	1994	2 (0.6) *** (**.*)	9 (3.1) 207 (5.6)!	5 (1.0) 208 (3.5)!

(continued on next page)

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TABLE 6.2 (continued)

Public School Teachers' Reports on Resources for Reading Instruction

*How often do you use the following resources to teach reading?**		Wisconsin	Central	Nation
		Percentage and Proficiency		
Materials from other subject areas				
At least once a week	1992	54 (3.4) 222 (1.5)	53 (4.4) 221 (2.6)	56 (2.5) 218 (1.9)
	1994	61 (3.0) 225 (1.7)	64 (4.6) 219 (3.8)	69 (2.3) 213 (1.3)
Once or twice a month	1992	29 (3.3) 226 (1.8)	34 (4.1) 217 (3.4)	30 (2.5) 213 (2.0)
	1994	33 (2.9) 221 (1.9)	22 (3.6) 222 (3.9)	22 (2.0) 214 (2.1)
Never or hardly ever	1992	17 (2.8) 225 (2.9)	13 (2.6) 220 (6.7)!	14 (2.3) 217 (3.2)
	1994	6 (1.7) 232 (3.2)!	14 (5.0) 213 (5.1)!	9 (1.6) 212 (3.9)

* The question associated with this variable was reformatted in 1994. No trend comparison tests were conducted.

The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500. The standard errors of the statistics appear in parentheses. It can be said with about 95 percent confidence that, for each population of interest, the value for the entire population is within ± 2 standard errors of the estimate for the sample. In comparing two estimates, one must use the standard error of the difference (see Appendix A for details). ! Interpret with caution — the nature of the sample does not allow accurate determination of the variability of this statistic. *** Sample size is insufficient to permit a reliable estimate.

Instructional Activities

Teachers can nurture students' developing reading ability by providing instructional activities that prepare students for a wide variety of specific reading tasks.[38] Effective activities support students' understanding of the text being read and model the ways in which students can control the process of building meaning when reading on their own.[39] To provide information about the instructional activities in which fourth-grade students are engaged, the students participating in the Trial State Assessment Program and their reading teachers were asked to report on the frequency with which the teachers asked the students to do a variety of activities. The students' and teachers' responses are presented in the three following sections — workbooks, worksheets, and writing; discussions and group activities; and time to read. The students' and teachers' responses sometimes reflect different perceptions of the frequency of some activities.

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[38] S.G. Paris. "Teaching Children to Guide Their Reading and Learning," in Taffy E. Raphael, Ed., *The Contexts of School-Based Literacy*. (New York, NY: Random House, 1984), pp. 115-130.

[39] A.P. Sweet. *Transforming Ideas for Teaching and Learning to Read*. (Washington, DC: Office of Educational Research and Improvement, 1993).

Workbooks, Worksheets, and Writing

Some educators and researchers have suggested that children spend a disproportionate amount of time completing workbook tasks rather than receiving reading instruction or actively constructing their own understandings.[40] Analyses of workbook and worksheet activities reveal that many of these tasks require only a perfunctory level of reading.[41] Although we do not know what specific activities constitute time spent on workbooks and worksheets, such tasks rarely require students to engage in any extended writing. Writing activities have been found to incite children's interest and involvement in learning about language and to enhance their reading comprehension.[42] To examine the use of workbooks, worksheets, and the reading/writing connection, students and their reading teachers were asked about the frequency with which teachers asked students to work in a reading workbook or on a worksheet or to write about something they had read. Table 6.3 provides these results.

In 1994, according to the fourth-grade public school **students** in Wisconsin:

- The percentage of students who were asked to work in a reading workbook or on a worksheet almost every day (50 percent) was greater than the percentage of students who were asked to write about something they have read almost every day (20 percent).
- Students who were asked to work in a reading workbook or on a worksheet almost every day demonstrated an average reading proficiency (226) which was higher than that of students who did this activity less than weekly (221).
- The average reading proficiency of students who were asked to write about something they have read almost every day (220) was not significantly different from that of students who were asked to do this less than weekly (224).

And, according to their **reading teachers**:

- The percentage of students who were asked to work in a reading workbook or on a worksheet almost every day (19 percent) was not significantly different from* the percentage of students who were asked to write about something they have read almost every day (28 percent).

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* Although the difference may appear large, recall that "significance" here refers to "statistical significance." (See Appendix A for further discussion.)

[40] P.D. Pearson, L.R. Roehler, J.A. Dole, and G.G. Duffy. "Developing Expertise in Reading Comprehension," in S.J. Samuels and A.E. Farstrup, Eds., *What Research Has to Say About Reading Instruction.* (Newark, DE: International Reading Association, 1992); R.C. Anderson, E.H. Hiebert, J.A. Scott, and I.A.G. Wilkinson. *Becoming a Nation of Readers: The Report of the Commission on Reading.* (U.S. Department of Education: The National Institute of Education, 1985).

[41] J.R. Campbell, B.A. Kapinus, and A.S. Beatty. *Interviewing Children About Their Literacy Experiences.* (Washington, DC: National Center for Education Statistics, Government Printing Office, 1995); J. Osborn. "Workbooks: Counting, Matching, and Judging," in J. Osborn, P.T. Wilson, and R.C. Anderson Eds., *Reading Education: Foundations for a Literate America.* (Lexington, MA: Lexington Books, 1985).

[42] S.D. Miller, T. Adkins, and M.L. Hooper. "Why Teachers Select Specific Literacy Assignments and Students' Reactions to Them," in *Journal of Reading Behavior, 25(1), 69-93.* 1993; D.C. Simmons, E.J. Kameenui, S. Dickson, D. Chard, B. Gunn, and S. Baker. "Integrating Narrative Reading Comprehension and Writing Instruction for All Learners," in *Multidimensional Aspects of Literacy Research, Theory, and Practice.* (Chicago, IL: National Reading Conference, 1994).

- Students who were asked to work in a reading workbook or on a worksheet almost every day demonstrated an average reading proficiency (223) which was not significantly different from that of students who did this activity less than weekly (225).

- The reading proficiency of students who were asked to write about something they have read almost every day (222) was not significantly different from that of students who were asked to do this less than weekly (218).

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TABLE 6.3

Public School Teachers' and Students' Reports on Workbooks, Worksheets, and Writing

How often do you (does your teacher) do each of the following as a part of reading instruction?		Wisconsin Teacher	Wisconsin Student	Central Teacher	Central Student	Nation Teacher	Nation Student
		Percentage and Proficiency					
Ask students to work in a reading workbook or on a worksheet*							
Almost every day	1992	27 (3.7) 223 (2.0)	55 (2.2) 226 (1.0)	27 (6.3) 217 (3.6)!	51 (3.5) 219 (2.1)	31 (2.7) 213 (1.8)	50 (1.6) 217 (1.1)
	1994	19 (3.6) 223 (2.0)	50 (1.9) 226 (1.5)	33 (5.8) 217 (4.5)!	57 (3.6) 224 (2.7)	26 (2.6) 207 (2.5)	51 (1.3) 218 (1.3)
At least once a week	1992	50 (4.2) 225 (1.4)	28 (1.4) 223 (1.4)	49 (9.3) 219 (3.7)!	27 (1.3) 222 (1.9)	48 (3.4) 216 (1.7)	29 (1.0) 218 (1.7)
	1994	45 (3.6) 224 (2.0)	26 (1.0) 226 (1.6)	48 (6.8) 220 (3.3)	24 (2.5) 219 (3.1)	48 (2.5) 214 (1.4)	25 (0.9) < 215 (1.4)
Less than weekly	1992	24 (3.5) 222 (2.8)	18 (1.2) 218 (2.3)	25 (5.2) 224 (3.1)	22 (2.9) 214 (1.6)	22 (2.8) 221 (3.3)	21 (1.1) 210 (1.7)
	1994	36 (3.8) 225 (1.9)	24 (1.6) > 221 (1.6)	19 (6.0) 220 (3.5)!	19 (2.4) 206 (3.7)	26 (2.9) 217 (1.9)	24 (1.0) 203 (1.9) <
Ask students to write about something they have read*							
Almost every day	1992	28 (3.0) 222 (1.6)	19 (1.2) 218 (1.8)	21 (3.5) 222 (2.7)	21 (1.4) 212 (2.9)	25 (1.8) 220 (2.7)	23 (0.8) 210 (1.6)
	1994	28 (3.1) 222 (2.1)	20 (1.1) 220 (2.0)	26 (4.4) 221 (4.4)	22 (2.6) 215 (3.2)	30 (2.4) 212 (2.5)	23 (1.0) 208 (1.8)
At least once a week	1992	57 (3.0) 224 (1.3)	36 (1.0) 224 (1.2)	54 (5.7) 220 (2.5)	34 (2.1) 218 (1.6)	49 (2.6) 216 (1.9)	34 (1.0) 217 (1.2)
	1994	61 (3.6) 226 (1.5)	35 (1.2) 227 (1.4)	52 (3.9) 219 (3.2)	30 (1.8) 219 (3.9)	56 (2.3) 213 (1.5)	33 (0.7) 215 (1.4)
Less than weekly	1992	15 (3.1) 226 (2.6)!	45 (1.4) 226 (1.2)	25 (5.7) 219 (4.0)!	45 (2.4) 221 (2.2)	26 (2.5) 213 (2.4)	43 (1.2) 217 (1.2)
	1994	11 (2.1) 218 (2.4)!	45 (1.3) 224 (1.3)	21 (4.8) 216 (4.1)!	48 (2.1) 221 (3.0)	14 (2.0) 215 (2.6)	44 (0.9) 216 (1.3)

* The question associated with this variable that was posed to teachers was reformatted in 1994. No trend comparison tests were conducted on the teacher data.

The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500. The standard errors of the statistics appear in parentheses. It can be said with about 95 percent confidence that, for each population of interest, the value for the entire population is within ± 2 standard errors of the estimate for the sample. In comparing two estimates, one must use the standard error of the difference (see Appendix A for details). If the notation > (<) appears, it signifies that the value for public school students in 1994 was significantly higher (lower) than the value for 1992 at about the 95 percent confidence level. ! Interpret with caution — the nature of the sample does not allow accurate determination of the variability of this statistic.

Discussion and Group Activities

Discussion-related activities are an important part of classroom learning, because they provide opportunities for students to ask questions about things they do not understand or want to know more about. A lack of emphasis on group work or the sharing of different interpretations limits opportunities students have for discovering that their reactions or interpretations may not be the only ones justified by the text.[43] Furthermore, working in groups and discussing reading provide opportunities for students to develop language and communication skills that are necessary for literacy learning.

To examine the prevalence of discussion-related activities, students and their reading teachers were asked about how frequently the students discussed new or difficult vocabulary, talked with each other about what they have read, or did a group activity or project about what they have read (Table 6.4).

In 1994, according to the fourth-grade **students** in public schools:

- Less than one third of the students in Wisconsin (30 percent) were asked to discuss new or difficult vocabulary almost every day. This percentage did not differ significantly from that of students across the nation (32 percent).
- The percentage of students in Wisconsin who were asked to talk with each other almost every day about what they have read (15 percent) was somewhat smaller than that of students across the nation (17 percent).
- Relatively few of the students in Wisconsin (11 percent) were asked to do a group activity or project about what they have read almost every day. This figure was smaller than that of students across the nation, where 15 percent of the students were asked to do this.

And, according to their **reading teachers**:

- In Wisconsin, 60 percent of the students were asked to discuss new or difficult vocabulary almost every day. This percentage did not differ significantly from that of students across the nation (62 percent).
- The percentage of students in Wisconsin who were asked to talk with each other almost every day about what they have read (34 percent) was not significantly different from that of students across the nation, where 34 percent of the students were asked to do this activity almost every day.
- A small percentage of the students in Wisconsin (5 percent) were asked to do a group activity or project about what they have read almost every day. This figure was not significantly different from that of students across the nation (5 percent).

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[43] J. Moffett and B. Wagner. "Student Centered Reading Activities," in *English Journal, 80,* 1991.

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TABLE 6.4

Public School Teachers' and Students' Reports on the Frequency of Discussion and Group Activities

How often do you (does your teacher) do each of the following as a part of reading instruction?		Wisconsin Teacher	Wisconsin Student	Central Teacher	Central Student	Nation Teacher	Nation Student
		Percentage and Proficiency					
Discuss new or difficult vocabulary*							
Almost every day	1992	55 (3.6) 223 (1.4)	30 (1.2) 225 (1.7)	49 (4.7) 219 (2.2)	28 (1.1) 218 (2.3)	49 (2.4) 214 (1.8)	31 (0.9) 215 (1.4)
	1994	60 (3.8) 223 (1.5)	30 (1.2) 225 (1.6)	53 (6.1) 216 (3.4)	31 (1.6) 220 (3.8)	62 (2.5) 211 (1.4)	32 (0.8) 214 (1.6)
At least once a week	1992	43 (3.5) 225 (1.5)	42 (1.0) 227 (1.1)	51 (4.7) 221 (3.3)	40 (2.1) 222 (2.6)	49 (2.3) 218 (1.9)	39 (1.0) 220 (1.3)
	1994	38 (3.8) 226 (1.6)	39 (1.3) 228 (1.4)	47 (6.1) 222 (3.1)	40 (1.8) 224 (2.7)	37 (2.6) 218 (1.5)	36 (0.8) 218 (1.4)
Less than weekly	1992	1 (0.7) *** (**.*)	28 (1.0) 216 (1.6)	0 (0.0) *** (**.*)	32 (1.9) 213 (2.0)	2 (0.8) 218 (7.6)!	30 (0.8) 209 (1.3)
	1994	2 (1.0) *** (**.*)	31 (1.2) 219 (1.9)	0 (0.0) *** (**.*)	29 (2.1) 211 (4.1)	1 (0.5) *** (**.*)	31 (0.8) 207 (1.4)
Ask students to talk with each other about what they have read**							
Almost every day	1992	30 (3.4) 222 (2.1)	— (--.-) — (--.-)	22 (4.2) 222 (3.4)!	— (--.-) — (--.-)	32 (2.6) 215 (2.2)	— (--.-) — (--.-)
	1994	34 (3.3) 225 (2.0)	15 (0.7) 218 (2.3)	25 (4.8) 217 (3.4)	15 (1.1) 208 (3.2)	34 (2.5) 211 (2.2)	17 (0.7) 202 (2.0)
At least once a week	1992	52 (3.6) 224 (1.3)	— (--.-) — (--.-)	55 (6.8) 221 (2.9)	— (--.-) — (--.-)	49 (3.0) 218 (1.7)	— (--.-) — (--.-)
	1994	48 (3.4) 224 (1.6)	32 (1.2) 225 (1.6)	52 (6.1) 221 (3.5)	31 (1.5) 218 (3.8)	48 (2.5) 215 (1.5)	30 (0.6) 213 (1.4)
Less than weekly	1992	17 (3.3) 226 (2.9)!	— (--.-) — (--.-)	22 (6.8) 215 (4.0)!	— (--.-) — (--.-)	19 (2.7) 213 (2.9)	— (--.-) — (--.-)
	1994	18 (2.9) 223 (2.3)	53 (1.3) 226 (1.2)	23 (3.6) 217 (5.5)	54 (2.2) 222 (2.8)	18 (1.8) 215 (2.9)	53 (0.9) 218 (1.3)
Ask students to do a group activity or project about what they have read**							
Almost every day	1992	6 (1.5) 225 (3.6)!	— (--.-) — (--.-)	4 (1.6) *** (**.*)	— (--.-) — (--.-)	3 (0.8) 220 (4.5)!	— (--.-) — (--.-)
	1994	5 (1.5) 228 (5.3)!	11 (0.6) 213 (2.4)	5 (2.7) 220 (12.4)!	12 (1.2) 206 (4.2)	5 (1.1) 207 (5.5)!	15 (0.6) 198 (1.9)
At least once a week	1992	21 (2.7) 222 (2.2)	— (--.-) — (--.-)	26 (6.0) 223 (3.1)!	— (--.-) — (--.-)	21 (2.4) 218 (2.3)	— (--.-) — (--.-)
	1994	41 (3.3) 225 (1.4)	28 (1.2) 222 (1.6)	26 (5.5) 221 (4.7)!	25 (1.3) 213 (3.0)	28 (2.4) 214 (2.0)	24 (0.7) 209 (1.4)
Less than weekly	1992	73 (3.0) 224 (1.1)	— (--.-) — (--.-)	70 (6.5) 219 (2.4)	— (--.-) — (--.-)	76 (2.5) 215 (1.5)	— (--.-) — (--.-)
	1994	55 (3.1) 223 (1.7)	61 (1.4) 229 (1.2)	68 (5.7) 218 (2.6)	63 (1.6) 226 (2.8)	67 (2.3) 214 (1.3)	61 (0.9) 220 (1.2)

* The question associated with this variable that was posed to teachers was reformatted in 1994. No trend comparison tests were conducted on the teacher data. ** The questions associated with these variables that were posed to teachers were reformatted in 1994 and the comparable questions posed to students were changed substantially. 1992 data are presented only for teacher responses and no trend comparison tests were conducted. The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500. The standard errors of the statistics appear in parentheses. It can be said with about 95 percent confidence that, for each population of interest, the value for the entire population is within ± 2 standard errors of the estimate for the sample. In comparing two estimates, one must use the standard error of the difference (see Appendix A for details). If the notation > (<) appears, it signifies that the value for public school students in 1994 was significantly higher (lower) than the value for 1992 at about the 95 percent confidence level. ! Interpret with caution — the nature of the sample does not allow accurate determination of the variability of this statistic. *** Sample size is insufficient to permit a reliable estimate.

Time to Read

Independent reading continues to be a major contributor to reading fluency.[44] In contrast to completing workbook pages or computer drills, the reading of books provides practice in the whole act of reading. However, some studies have suggested that students may not be asked to read in school as frequently as is necessary to support literacy development.[45]

Both the fourth-grade students and their reading teachers were questioned about the frequency with which the teachers asked the students to read aloud or read silently, or gave the students time to read books of their own choosing. Table 6.5 provides this information.

According to the fourth-grade public school **students** in 1994:

- The percentage of students in Wisconsin who were asked to read aloud almost every day (36 percent) was smaller than that of students across the nation who were asked to read aloud almost every day (45 percent).

- About three quarters of the students (73 percent) were asked to read silently almost every day. This figure was larger than that for the nation (64 percent).

- In Wisconsin, 63 percent of the students were given time to read books of their own choosing almost every day. This percentage was larger than that of students nationwide (53 percent).

And, according to their **reading teachers**:

- Less than half of the students in Wisconsin (45 percent) were asked to read aloud almost every day. This figure was smaller than that of students across the nation, where 57 percent of the students were asked to read aloud almost every day.

- The percentage of students in Wisconsin who were asked to read silently almost every day (85 percent) was greater than that of students across the nation (74 percent).

- About three quarters of the students in Wisconsin (75 percent) were given time to read books of their own choosing almost every day. This did not differ significantly from the percentage of students across the nation (69 percent).

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[44] I. Wilkinson, J.L. Wardrop, and R.C. Anderson, "Silent Reading Reconsidered: Reinterpreting Reading Instruction and Its Effects," in *American Educational Research Journal, 25(1)*, (1988), pp. 127-144; C.S. Huck, "Literacy and Literature," in *Language Arts, 69*, (1992), pp. 520-526.

[45] R.C. Anderson, E.H. Hiebert, J.A. Scott, and I.A.G. Wilkinson, *Becoming a Nation of Readers: The Report of the Commission on Reading*. (U.S. Department of Education, The National Institute of Education, 1985); M.A. Foertsch, *Reading In and Out of School*. (Washington, DC: National Center for Education Statistics, 1992).

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TABLE 6.5

Public School Teachers' and Students' Reports on the Frequency of Reading in Class

How often do you (does your teacher) do each of the following as a part of reading instruction?		Wisconsin		Central		Nation	
		Teacher	Student	Teacher	Student	Teacher	Student
		Percentage and Proficiency					
Ask students to read aloud**							
Almost every day	1992	38 (3.4) 220 (1.8)	--- (--.-) --- (--.-)	43 (4.6) 222 (2.6)	--- (--.-) --- (--.-)	47 (2.9) 212 (1.6)	--- (--.-) --- (--.-)
	1994	45 (3.2) 223 (1.8)	36 (1.7) 225 (1.6)	60 (5.2) 215 (3.7)	47 (2.8) 221 (2.7)	57 (2.4) 210 (1.5)	45 (1.2) 215 (1.3)
At least once a week	1992	55 (3.5) 226 (1.3)	--- (--.-) --- (--.-)	53 (4.3) 219 (3.5)	--- (--.-) --- (--.-)	45 (2.5) 220 (1.8)	--- (--.-) --- (--.-)
	1994	45 (3.1) 224 (1.4)	35 (1.3) 228 (1.3)	33 (5.0) 223 (4.0)	30 (1.3) 222 (3.2)	38 (2.3) 217 (1.6)	30 (0.8) 218 (1.4)
Less than weekly	1992	7 (1.7) 226 (3.2)!	--- (--.-) --- (--.-)	4 (1.1) *** (**.*)	--- (--.-) --- (--.-)	8 (1.7) 222 (4.1)!	--- (--.-) --- (--.-)
	1994	11 (1.7) 228 (3.6)	29 (1.5) 223 (1.7)	7 (3.4) 238 (8.7)!	24 (2.4) 215 (4.8)	5 (1.1) 228 (5.0)!	25 (1.0) 209 (1.9)
Ask students to read silently*							
Almost every day	1992	76 (2.9) 224 (1.1)	70 (1.2) 228 (1.1)	75 (3.7) 221 (2.7)	68 (1.7) 223 (1.8)	75 (2.3) 218 (1.8)	67 (1.1) 221 (1.3)
	1994	85 (2.2) 225 (1.3)	73 (1.2) 228 (1.1)	78 (5.3) 219 (2.9)	63 (2.4) 227 (2.9)	74 (2.3) 214 (1.3)	64 (1.1) 220 (1.3)
At least once a week	1992	23 (2.9) 223 (2.1)	22 (1.0) 221 (1.7)	24 (3.6) 216 (2.6)	22 (1.7) 214 (3.9)	23 (2.1) 212 (2.2)	22 (0.9) 213 (1.5)
	1994	14 (2.2) 219 (3.1)	18 (1.0) < 224 (2.2)	19 (5.4) 219 (6.4)!	23 (2.2) 215 (3.7)	23 (2.3) 210 (2.5)	23 (0.9) 213 (1.6)
Less than weekly	1992	2 (0.7) *** (**.*)	8 (0.6) 205 (2.8)	1 (0.6) *** (**.*)	10 (1.0) 197 (5.0)	2 (0.5) 207 (5.5)!	11 (0.6) 193 (2.1)
	1994	1 (0.6) *** (**.*)	8 (0.6) 209 (2.8)	3 (0.8) *** (**.*)	14 (1.2) 196 (3.7)	3 (0.7) 209 (7.9)!	13 (0.5) > 188 (1.9)
Give students time to read books they have chosen themselves****							
Almost every day	1992	--- (--.-) --- (--.-)	58 (1.6) 229 (1.0)	--- (--.-) --- (--.-)	57 (1.9) 223 (1.9)	--- (--.-) --- (--.-)	55 (1.5) 222 (1.3)
	1994	75 (3.7) 225 (1.3)	63 (1.9) 230 (1.1)	70 (4.9) 220 (3.7)	54 (2.2) 225 (2.6)	69 (2.5) 215 (1.4)	53 (1.1) 220 (1.1)
At least once a week	1992	--- (--.-) --- (--.-)	28 (1.2) 221 (1.6)	--- (--.-) --- (--.-)	28 (2.2) 219 (3.3)	--- (--.-) --- (--.-)	27 (1.1) 214 (1.7)
	1994	21 (3.4) 222 (2.6)	25 (1.5) 220 (1.9)	26 (4.9) 221 (3.7)!	28 (1.7) 215 (3.3)	25 (2.4) 210 (2.5)	29 (0.9) 212 (1.6)
Less than weekly	1992	--- (--.-) --- (--.-)	14 (0.9) 211 (2.7)	--- (--.-) --- (--.-)	15 (1.5) 202 (3.4)	--- (--.-) --- (--.-)	18 (0.8) 202 (1.4)
	1994	4 (1.1) 213 (5.9)!	12 (0.9) 214 (2.6)	4 (2.0) *** (**.*)	18 (1.5) 212 (6.3)	6 (1.2) 207 (4.9)	18 (0.7) 204 (2.3)

* The question associated with this variable that was posed to teachers was reformatted in 1994. No trend comparison tests were conducted on the teacher data. ** The questions associated with these variables that were posed to teachers were reformatted in 1994 and the comparable questions posed to students were changed substantially. 1992 data are presented only for teacher responses and no trend comparison tests were conducted. **** The question associated with this variable that was posed to teachers was changed substantially in 1994. No 1992 data are presented for teacher responses. The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500. The standard errors of the statistics appear in parentheses. It can be said with about 95 percent confidence that, for each population of interest, the value for the entire population is within ± 2 standard errors of the estimate for the sample. In comparing two estimates, one must use the standard error of the difference (see Appendix A for details). If the notation > (<) appears, it signifies that the value for public school students in 1994 was significantly higher (lower) than the value for 1992 at about the 95 percent confidence level. ! Interpret with caution — the nature of the sample does not allow accurate determination of the variability of this statistic. *** Sample size is insufficient to permit a reliable estimate.

Reading and Use of Libraries

Analysis of schools that have been successful in promoting independent reading suggests that one of the keys is ready access to books.[46] Libraries can be a major resource in developing students' reading abilities because students can use them as quiet places to read as well as to check out books and to obtain reference information.[47] Thus, to examine library use, students' reading teachers were asked about the frequency with which they sent or took their reading classes to the library and assigned students to read a book from the library. Table 6.6 provides the results from public school teachers' reports about the frequency of sending fourth-grade students to the library.

- In 1994, almost all of the students in Wisconsin (91 percent) had reading teachers who sent or took the class to the library at least once a week. This percentage was not significantly different from that of students in the nation whose teachers sent or took the class to the library with the same frequency (86 percent).

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TABLE 6.6

Public School Teachers' Reports on Sending Students to the Library

*How often do you send or take the class to the library?**	Wisconsin	Central	Nation
	Percentage and Proficiency		
At least once a week			
1992	92 (2.0) 224 (1.0)	93 (2.3) 221 (1.9)	85 (2.7) 218 (1.5)
1994	91 (2.5) 224 (1.2)	79 (2.9) 220 (2.6)	86 (1.8) 214 (1.1)
Once or twice a month			
1992	3 (1.1) 226 (5.7)!	2 (1.1) *** (**.*)	9 (1.9) 208 (4.1)!
1994	6 (2.0) 219 (4.3)!	14 (4.3) 215 (9.3)!	9 (1.8) 209 (4.7)!
Never or hardly ever			
1992	4 (1.4) 211 (9.6)!	5 (1.8) *** (**.*)	5 (1.6) 208 (4.3)!
1994	3 (1.3) *** (**.*)	4 (2.2) *** (**.*)	3 (0.8) 202 (7.3)!

* The question associated with this variable was reformatted in 1994. No trend comparison tests were conducted.

The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500. The standard errors of the statistics appear in parentheses. It can be said with about 95 percent confidence that, for each population of interest, the value for the entire population is within ± 2 standard errors of the estimate for the sample. In comparing two estimates, one must use the standard error of the difference (see Appendix A for details). Percentages may not add to 100 because a very small percentage of teachers reported that there was no library at their school. ! Interpret with caution — the nature of the sample does not allow accurate determination of the variability of this statistic. *** Sample size is insufficient to permit a reliable estimate.

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[46] R.C. Anderson, E.H. Hiebert, J.A. Scott, and I.A.G. Wilkinson. *Becoming a Nation of Readers: The Report of the Commission on Reading.* (U.S. Department of Education: The National Institute of Education, 1985).

[47] K.C. Lance, L. Welborn, and C. Hamilton-Pennel. *The Impact of School Library Media Centers on Academic Achievement.* (Castle Rock, CO: Hi Willow Research and Publishing, 1993).

Table 6.7 provides the results about public school teachers' reports on the frequency of assigning students to read a book from the library.

- In 1994, more than half of the fourth graders in Wisconsin (56 percent) had reading teachers who assigned reading a book from the library at least once a week. The percentage of students whose teachers assigned reading library books this often was not significantly different* across the nation (47 percent).

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TABLE 6.7

Public School Teachers' Reports on Assigning Books from the Library

*How often do you assign students to read a book from the library?**	Wisconsin	Central	Nation
	Percentage and Proficiency		
At least once a week			
1992	55 (3.6) 222 (1.5)	57 (5.6) 221 (2.4)	50 (2.8) 216 (1.6)
1994	56 (3.9) 224 (1.6)	43 (8.6) 218 (3.1)!	47 (3.1) 212 (1.5)
Once or twice a month			
1992	27 (3.3) 226 (1.8)	27 (5.8) 221 (2.3)!	31 (2.7) 219 (2.2)
1994	26 (3.5) 223 (2.5)	41 (8.8) 222 (3.2)!	37 (2.8) 215 (2.0)
Never or hardly ever			
1992	18 (2.6) 226 (1.8)	17 (3.6) 213 (4.9)!	19 (2.3) 213 (2.6)
1994	18 (2.8) 228 (2.5)	15 (2.8) 214 (7.3)!	17 (1.5) 213 (3.2)

* The question associated with this variable was reformatted in 1994. No trend comparison tests were conducted.

The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500. The standard errors of the statistics appear in parentheses. It can be said with about 95 percent confidence that, for each population of interest, the value for the entire population is within ± 2 standard errors of the estimate for the sample. In comparing two estimates, one must use the standard error of the difference (see Appendix A for details). ** Percentages may not add to 100 because a very small percentage of teachers reported that there was no library at their school. ! Interpret with caution — the nature of the sample does not allow accurate determination of the variability of this statistic.

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* Although the difference may appear large, recall that "significance" here refers to "statistical significance." (See Appendix A for further discussion.)

Assessing Progress in Reading

Ten years ago, the authors of *Becoming a Nation of Readers* argued that standardized tests do not always provide a deep assessment of reading comprehension and should be supplemented with observations of reading fluency, critical analysis of lengthy reading selections, and measures of the amount of independent reading and writing done by children.[48]

Over the last decade, reforms in classroom assessment have been called for at numerous levels. Many educators have begun to utilize assessment methods that are more instructionally-relevant and performance based.[49] At the same time, policy makers and the interested public have called for educational assessments that measure the more integrative, complex abilities that are associated with advanced achievement.[50]

Fourth-grade students' reading teachers were asked a series of questions to report on how often they used different types of assessment measures — including multiple-choice tests, longer extended constructed-response questions, and reading portfolios — to assess student progress in reading. The use of reading portfolios[51] is an emerging assessment technique that may not be widely used in many schools. From Table 6.8:

- In 1994, a small percentage of the fourth-grade public school students in Wisconsin (2 percent) were assessed with multiple-choice tests once or twice a week. This figure was smaller than that for the nation, where 12 percent of the students were similarly assessed.
- The percentage of students in Wisconsin public schools in 1994 who were asked to write paragraphs about what they had read once or twice a week (35 percent) was not significantly different from that of students across the nation (39 percent).
- In 1994, relatively few of the fourth graders in public schools in Wisconsin (12 percent) were assessed by using reading portfolios once or twice a week. This percentage was not significantly different from that of students across the nation (15 percent).

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[48] R.C. Anderson, E.H. Hiebert, J.A. Scott, and I.A.G. Wilkinson. *Becoming a Nation of Readers: The Report of the Commission on Reading.* (U.S. Department of Education: The National Institute of Education, 1985)

[49] S.W. Valencia, E.H. Hiebert, and P.P. Afflerbach, Eds., *Authentic Reading Assessment: Practices and Possibilities* (Newark, DE: International Reading Association, 1994)

[50] G. Wiggins. "Assessment: Authenticity, Context, and Validity," in *Phi Delta Kappan.* (November, 1993) pp. 200-214.

[51] S.W. Valencia, E.H. Hiebert, and P.P. Afflerbach, Eds., *Authentic Reading Assessment: Practices and Possibilities*

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TABLE 6.8

Public School Teachers' Reports on Assessing Progress in Reading

How often do you use each of the following to assess student progress in reading?		Wisconsin	Central	Nation
		Percentage and Proficiency		
Multiple-choice tests*				
Once or twice a week	1992	4 (1.6) 215 (7.9)!	11 (4.4) 218 (5.5)!	14 (2.1) 208 (3.1)
	1994	2 (1.0) *** (**.*)	12 (2.8) 216 (2.6)!	12 (1.9) 211 (3.1)
Once or twice a month	1992	53 (4.2) 227 (1.3)	51 (7.1) 220 (3.3)	49 (3.3) 217 (1.7)
	1994	40 (3.5) 224 (1.8)	54 (4.5) 219 (3.4)	49 (2.1) 212 (1.7)
Once or twice a year	1992	27 (2.8) 223 (1.9)	19 (4.9) 223 (3.4)!	15 (2.2) 220 (2.5)
	1994	33 (3.8) 225 (1.9)	16 (3.3) 217 (8.9)	17 (1.5) 216 (3.2)
Never or hardly ever	1992	16 (2.9) 218 (2.6)	19 (7.3) 216 (4.3)!	21 (3.4) 218 (3.5)
	1994	25 (3.2) 224 (2.7)	19 (3.7) 222 (4.6)!	22 (2.3) 215 (2.7)
Paragraph length written responses about what students have read				
Once or twice a week	1992	— (--.-) — (--.-)	— (--.-) — (--.-)	— (--.-) — (--.-)
	1994	35 (3.4) 224 (2.1)	39 (8.3) 223 (2.5)	39 (3.0) 215 (1.5)
Once or twice a month	1992	— (--.-) — (--.-)	— (--.-) — (--.-)	— (--.-) — (--.-)
	1994	50 (3.5) 225 (1.5)	40 (7.9) 216 (3.9)!	44 (2.9) 214 (1.5)
Once or twice a year	1992	— (--.-) — (--.-)	— (--.-) — (--.-)	— (--.-) — (--.-)
	1994	9 (2.0) 220 (3.6)!	12 (3.7) 216 (4.9)!	10 (1.4) 213 (3.4)
Never or hardly ever	1992	— (--.-) — (--.-)	— (--.-) — (--.-)	— (--.-) — (--.-)
	1994	6 (1.7) 224 (4.4)!	9 (3.0) 213 (7.8)!	7 (1.4) 201 (3.8)!
Reading portfolios*				
Once or twice a week	1992	7 (1.6) 225 (3.3)!	14 (3.1) 215 (4.8)!	14 (1.8) 217 (4.2)
	1994	12 (2.5) 218 (3.9)!	11 (3.4) 216 (7.5)!	15 (1.6) 209 (2.4)
Once or twice a month	1992	22 (2.9) 224 (2.3)	30 (5.1) 222 (3.9)	25 (2.3) 221 (2.4)
	1994	31 (3.4) 224 (2.2)	23 (7.4) 215 (6.5)!	26 (2.6) 212 (2.8)
Once or twice a year	1992	18 (2.2) 220 (2.2)	10 (4.8) 224 (6.5)!	13 (2.3) 216 (3.7)
	1994	16 (2.4) 225 (2.9)	11 (3.6) 219 (7.8)!	16 (2.0) 217 (2.8)
Never or hardly ever	1992	52 (4.1) 225 (1.2)	46 (6.6) 219 (2.5)	47 (3.3) 214 (1.4)
	1994	42 (3.7) 226 (1.4)	55 (6.4) 221 (3.3)	43 (2.5) 214 (1.8)

* The question associated with this variable was reformatted in 1994. No trend comparison tests were conducted.

— The 1992 data are not reported for this variable due to a rewording of the question for the 1994 assessment. The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500. The standard errors of the statistics appear in parentheses. It can be said with about 95 percent confidence that, for each population of interest, the value for the entire population is within ± 2 standard errors of the estimate for the sample. In comparing two estimates, one must use the standard error of the difference (see Appendix A for details). ! Interpret with caution — the nature of the sample does not allow accurate determination of the variability of this statistic. *** Sample size is insufficient to permit a reliable estimate.

CHAPTER 7

Who Is Teaching Reading to Fourth Graders?

Preparation and Experience

Many states have begun to raise teacher certification standards and strengthen teacher training programs. In curriculum areas requiring special attention and improvement, such as reading, it is particularly important to have well-qualified teachers. To provide information about the staff who are teaching reading to fourth-grade students, the Trial State Assessment Program gathered details on the educational backgrounds of the teachers of the assessed students. Table 7.1 summarizes fourth-grade public school teachers' responses to questions concerning their academic preparation, certification, and their years of elementary or secondary teaching experience. In 1994:

- The percentage of students who were being taught by reading teachers who reported having at least a master's or education specialist's degree in Wisconsin (36 percent) was not significantly different from that for the nation (41 percent).

- About three quarters of the students (78 percent) had reading teachers who had the highest level of teaching certification that is recognized by Wisconsin. This was greater than the figure for the nation, where 65 percent of the students were taught by reading teachers who were certified at the highest level available in their states.

- In Wisconsin, 16 percent of the students were being taught reading by teachers who had an undergraduate major in English, reading, and/or language arts. This was not significantly different from the percentage of students across the nation who were being taught by reading teachers with the same major (20 percent).

- The percentage of students in Wisconsin who were taught reading by teachers who had a graduate major in English, reading, and/or language arts (18 percent) did not differ significantly from that of students across the nation (13 percent).

- The percentage of students who were being taught reading by teachers who have taught at either the elementary or secondary level for at least 11 years (including part-time teaching) in Wisconsin (66 percent) was not significantly different from that for students across the nation (67 percent).

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TABLE 7.1

Public School Teachers' Reports on Their Fields of Study and Teaching Experience

		Wisconsin	Central	Nation
		Percentage		
What is the highest academic degree you hold?				
Bachelor's degree	1992	--- (--.-)	--- (--.-)	--- (--.-)
	1994	64 (3.8)	68 (4.9)	59 (2.7)
Master's or specialist's degree	1992	--- (--.-)	--- (--.-)	--- (--.-)
	1994	36 (3.8)	34 (4.9)	41 (2.7)
Doctorate or professional degree	1992	--- (--.-)	--- (--.-)	--- (--.-)
	1994	0 (0.1)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.1)
What type of teaching certification do you have that is recognized by Wisconsin?				
None, temporary, probational, provisional, or emergency	1992	--- (--.-)	--- (--.-)	--- (--.-)
	1994	1 (0.4)	6 (3.3)	6 (1.3)
Regular certification but less than the highest available	1992	--- (--.-)	--- (--.-)	--- (--.-)
	1994	21 (2.4)	34 (4.2)	30 (2.2)
Highest certification available	1992	--- (--.-)	--- (--.-)	--- (--.-)
	1994	78 (2.4)	60 (5.9)	65 (2.5)
What was your undergraduate major?				
English, reading, and/or language arts	1992	--- (--.-)	--- (--.-)	--- (--.-)
	1994	16 (2.5)	17 (4.7)	20 (1.8)
Education	1992	--- (--.-)	--- (--.-)	--- (--.-)
	1994	75 (2.8)	74 (6.2)	69 (2.8)
Other	1992	--- (--.-)	--- (--.-)	--- (--.-)
	1994	8 (1.7)	10 (3.3)	12 (2.1)
What was your graduate major?				
English, reading, and/or language arts	1992	--- (--.-)	--- (--.-)	--- (--.-)
	1994	18 (2.8)	12 (2.6)	13 (1.2)
Education	1992	--- (--.-)	--- (--.-)	--- (--.-)
	1994	56 (3.8)	55 (5.7)	54 (2.7)
Other or no graduate level of study	1992	--- (--.-)	--- (--.-)	--- (--.-)
	1994	26 (2.9)	33 (4.9)	33 (2.5)
How many years in total have you taught at either the elementary or secondary level?				
2 years or less	1992	7 (1.8)	5 (2.9)	7 (1.4)
	1994	5 (1.5)	2 (0.6)	7 (1.2)
3-5 years	1992	12 (2.2)	10 (3.1)	13 (1.9)
	1994	14 (2.3)	9 (3.1)	12 (1.9)
6-10 years	1992	10 (2.6)	15 (2.8)	12 (1.4)
	1994	15 (2.6)	21 (4.2)	14 (1.5)
11-24 years	1992	45 (2.9)	43 (4.4)	51 (2.4)
	1994	42 (2.8)	50 (3.3)	48 (2.1)
25 years or more	1992	26 (3.0)	27 (3.8)	18 (1.7)
	1994	25 (2.8)	19 (3.3)	19 (1.9)

--- The 1992 data are not reported for this variable due to a rewording of the question for the 1994 assessment.

The standard errors of the statistics appear in parentheses. It can be said with about 95 percent confidence that, for each population of interest, the value for the entire population is within ± 2 standard errors of the estimate for the sample. In comparing two estimates, one must use the standard error of the difference (see Appendix A for details). If the notation > (<) appears, it signifies that the value for public school students in 1994 was significantly higher (lower) than the value for 1992 at about the 95 percent confidence level.

Professional Development

Teachers were also asked about the amount of time they spent in staff development workshops or seminars dedicated to reading or the teaching of reading during the year immediately preceding the Trial State Assessment Program. From Table 7.2, in 1994:

- In Wisconsin, 33 percent of the fourth-grade public school students had reading teachers who spent at least 16 hours in staff development workshops or seminars dedicated to reading or the teaching of reading. This figure did not differ significantly from that for the nation (36 percent).

- The percentage of students in Wisconsin public schools whose reading teachers spent no time on staff development workshops or seminars in reading or the teaching of reading (11 percent) was not significantly different from that of students across the nation (10 percent).

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TABLE 7.2

Public School Teachers' Reports on Time Spent in Staff Development Workshops and Seminars

	Wisconsin	Central	Nation
During the last year, how much time in total have you spent in staff development workshops or seminars in reading or the teaching of reading?*	Percentage		
None			
1992	9 (2.2)	11 (3.1)	9 (1.4)
1994	11 (2.5)	15 (3.0)	10 (1.3)
One to 15 hours			
1992	63 (3.2)	54 (6.0)	60 (2.9)
1994	56 (3.3)	60 (6.4)	54 (2.7)
16 hours or more			
1992	28 (3.2)	36 (6.5)	31 (2.6)
1994	33 (3.2)	25 (6.3)	36 (2.8)

* The question associated with this variable was reformatted in 1994. No trend comparison tests were conducted.

The standard errors of the statistics appear in parentheses. It can be said with about 95 percent confidence that, for each population of interest, the value for the entire population is within ± 2 standard errors of the estimate for the sample. In comparing two estimates, one must use the standard error of the difference (see Appendix A for details).

Finally, teachers were asked to report on whether they had training in specific aspects of reading during the past five years, either in college courses or through workshops. As indicated in Table 7.3, regarding fourth-grade public school students in 1994:

- In Wisconsin, 71 percent of the students had reading teachers who reported that they had training in teaching critical thinking skills. This was not significantly different from* the figure for the nation, where 78 percent of the students had teachers who reported having such training.
- A large majority of the students in Wisconsin (85 percent) had reading teachers who reported that they had training in combining reading and writing. This percentage was not significantly different from that for students across the nation (89 percent).
- A large majority of the students in Wisconsin (80 percent) had teachers who reported having training in the whole language approach to teaching reading. This percentage did not differ significantly from that for the nation (85 percent).
- In Wisconsin, 69 percent of the students had teachers who reported that they had training in reading assessment. This figure was not significantly different from that for students across the nation, where 67 percent of the students had teachers who had training in reading assessment.

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TABLE 7.3

Public School Teachers' Reports on Training in Specific Reading Areas

	Wisconsin	Central	Nation
During the past five years, have you ever had training in any of the following?		**Percentage**	
Teaching critical thinking			
1992	84 (2.1)	78 (4.8)	83 (1.8)
1994	71 (2.8) <	73 (6.0)	78 (2.4)
Combining reading and writing			
1992	92 (1.7)	88 (4.0)	89 (1.7)
1994	85 (3.0) <	79 (5.5)	89 (1.7)
The whole language approach to teaching reading			
1992	83 (2.3)	85 (5.0)	80 (2.0)
1994	80 (3.3)	80 (5.9)	85 (2.1)
Reading assessment			
1992	71 (2.7)	73 (3.7)	75 (1.8)
1994	69 (3.2)	60 (6.8)	67 (2.4) <

The standard errors of the statistics appear in parentheses. It can be said with about 95 percent confidence that, for each population of interest, the value for the entire population is within ± 2 standard errors of the estimate for the sample. In comparing two estimates, one must use the standard error of the difference (see Appendix A for details). If the notation > (<) appears, it signifies that the value for public school students in 1994 was significantly higher (lower) than the value for 1992 at about the 95 percent confidence level.

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* Although the difference may appear large, recall that "significance" here refers to "statistical significance." (See Appendix A for further discussion.)

CHAPTER 8

Students' Home Support for Literacy

A multitude of home and attitudinal variables may affect students' reading achievement.[52] In addition, good readers usually interact with a wide variety of materials on their own, and share their experiences with family and friends.[53] Thus, it is important to understand students' attitudes toward reading, the extent to which students read on their own, and the degree of home support that is available for reading. To examine these factors, students participating in the Trial State Assessment Program were asked a series of questions about themselves, their parents or guardians, and home factors related to reading.

Reading Outside of School

Because of the increasing concern for students' independent reading habits,[54] students participating in the Trial State Assessment Program were asked to report on how often they read for fun on their own time (Table 8.1). They also were asked about the number of books they have read on their own outside of school during the month preceding the assessment (Table 8.2), and how often they have taken books out of the school library or public library for their own enjoyment (Table 8.3).

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[52] J.T. Guthrie and V. Greaney, "Literacy Acts," in R. Barr, M. Kamil, P. Mosenthal, and P.D. Pearson, Eds., *Handbook of Reading Research, Volume II* (New York, NY: Longman, 1991).

[53] A.P. Sweet, *Transforming Ideas for Teaching and Learning to Read* (Washington, DC: Office of Educational Research and Improvement, 1993).

[54] L.G. Fielding, P.T. Wilson, and R.C. Anderson, "A New Focus on Free Reading: The Role of Trade Books in Reading and Instruction," in T. Raphael and R. Reynolds, Eds., *Contexts of Literacy* (New York: Longman, 1990).

The results are provided in Table 8.1 regarding how often fourth-grade public school students reported reading for fun on their own time.

- In 1994, 49 percent of the students in Wisconsin reported that they read for fun almost every day. This figure was somewhat higher than that for the nation (45 percent).
- In Wisconsin in 1994, the average reading proficiency of students who read for fun almost every day (230) was higher than that of students who reported that they read for fun once or twice a month or less (213).

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1994 Trial State Assessment

TABLE 8.1

Public School Students' Reports on the Frequency of Reading for Fun

How often do you read for fun on your own time?	Wisconsin	Central	Nation
	Percentage and Proficiency		
Almost every day			
1992	46 (1.1) 231 (1.2)	42 (1.7) 225 (1.8)	43 (1.0) 221 (1.3)
1994	49 (1.3) 230 (1.3)	46 (1.4) 227 (2.7)	45 (0.7) 221 (1.3)
Once or twice a week			
1992	34 (1.0) 221 (1.4)	33 (1.6) 218 (2.2)	32 (0.9) 217 (1.3)
1994	30 (1.1) 223 (1.4)	30 (1.5) 216 (3.4)	31 (0.7) 212 (1.3) <
Once or twice a month			
1992	10 (0.6) 216 (2.3)	11 (0.9) 210 (3.6)	12 (0.5) 208 (1.8)
1994	11 (0.6) 221 (2.2)	12 (1.3) 211 (4.0)	12 (0.5) 206 (2.3)
Never or hardly ever			
1992	10 (0.5) 205 (2.7)	14 (1.2) 204 (3.4)	13 (0.6) 198 (2.0)
1994	10 (0.7) 204 (2.5)	12 (1.0) 201 (4.6)	12 (0.4) 195 (2.0)

The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500. The standard errors of the statistics appear in parentheses. It can be said with about 95 percent confidence that, for each population of interest, the value for the entire population is within ± 2 standard errors of the estimate for the sample. In comparing two estimates, one must use the standard error of the difference (see Appendix A for details). If the notation > (<) appears, it signifies that the value for public school students in 1994 was significantly higher (lower) than the value for 1992 at about the 95 percent confidence level.

Concerning how many books were read by fourth-grade public school students in Wisconsin, Table 8.2 reveals that:

- Less than half of the Wisconsin students in 1994 (43 percent) read five or more books on their own outside of school in the month preceding the assessment. This figure was not significantly different from that of students across the nation, where 42 percent of the students reported reading the same number of books.
- In 1994 in Wisconsin, average reading proficiency was lowest for students who read no books on their own outside of school during the month prior to the assessment.

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TABLE 8.2

Public School Students' Reports on the Number of Books Read Outside of School in the Past Month

During the past month, how many books have you read on your own outside of school?	Wisconsin	Central	Nation
	Percentage and Proficiency		
None			
1992	6 (0.5) 207 (3.7)	8 (1.0) 201 (5.1)	7 (0.4) 196 (2.6)
1994	6 (0.5) 208 (3.3)	8 (1.0) 194 (6.7)	9 (0.6) 192 (2.5)
One or two			
1992	22 (0.8) 221 (1.4)	25 (1.5) 217 (2.3)	25 (0.8) 214 (1.6)
1994	27 (1.1) > 221 (1.7)	29 (1.9) 216 (2.1)	26 (0.8) 211 (1.5)
Three or four			
1992	25 (0.9) 225 (1.5)	25 (1.9) 219 (2.7)	24 (0.7) 219 (1.6)
1994	25 (1.1) 227 (1.9)	23 (1.8) 222 (4.3)	23 (0.6) 216 (1.8)
Five or more			
1992	46 (1.0) 226 (1.3)	43 (2.0) 221 (1.9)	44 (1.0) 217 (1.3)
1994	43 (1.2) 227 (1.4)	40 (1.4) 223 (3.1)	42 (0.8) 215 (1.4)

The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500. The standard errors of the statistics appear in parentheses. It can be said with about 95 percent confidence that, for each population of interest, the value for the entire population is within ± 2 standard errors of the estimate for the sample. In comparing two estimates, one must use the standard error of the difference (see Appendix A for details). If the notation > (<) appears, it signifies that the value for public school students in 1994 was significantly higher (lower) than the value for 1992 at about the 95 percent confidence level.

Finally, regarding the frequency with which students took books out of the school library or public library for their own enjoyment, from Table 8.3:

- In Wisconsin in 1994, 71 percent of the fourth-grade public school students took books out of the library for their own enjoyment at least once a week. This percentage was greater than that for the nation (63 percent).
- In 1994, public school fourth graders in Wisconsin who took books out of the library at least once a week had an average reading proficiency (226) that was higher than that of students who never or hardly ever took books out of the library for their own enjoyment (215).

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TABLE 8.3

Public School Students' Reports on the Frequency of Taking Books Out of the Library

	Wisconsin	Central	Nation
How often do you take books out of the school library or public library for your own enjoyment?	Percentage and Proficiency		
Almost every day			
1992	17 (0.8) 219 (2.1)	14 (1.1) 216 (3.6)	15 (0.6) 211 (1.7)
1994	17 (0.8) 221 (2.1)	17 (1.2) 214 (4.8)	16 (0.5) 207 (1.9)
Once or twice a week			
1992	51 (1.2) 228 (1.1)	52 (1.6) 223 (1.7)	48 (0.9) 219 (1.2)
1994	54 (1.3) 227 (1.3)	48 (1.7) 226 (2.7)	47 (0.8) 220 (1.2)
Once or twice a month			
1992	21 (1.0) 224 (1.3)	21 (1.3) 219 (2.0)	22 (0.8) 219 (1.4)
1994	18 (0.9) 227 (1.7)	20 (0.8) 218 (3.6)	21 (0.8) 215 (1.7)
Never or hardly ever			
1992	11 (0.8) 210 (2.4)	14 (1.2) 204 (4.3)	15 (0.7) 202 (1.8)
1994	11 (0.6) 215 (2.3)	14 (1.5) 200 (4.4)	16 (0.7) 198 (2.1)

The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500. The standard errors of the statistics appear in parentheses. It can be said with about 95 percent confidence that, for each population of interest, the value for the entire population is within ± 2 standard errors of the estimate for the sample. In comparing two estimates, one must use the standard error of the difference (see Appendix A for details). If the notation > (<) appears, it signifies that the value for public school students in 1994 was significantly higher (lower) than the value for 1992 at about the 95 percent confidence level.

Reading in the Home

The presence of parents or siblings who model and share reading and the availability of reading materials in the home are critical factors in the development of students' appreciation of reading and, ultimately, their comprehension and fluency.[55] Students participating in the Trial State Assessment Program were asked about the availability of newspapers, magazines, books, and an encyclopedia at home. They were also asked about the frequency with which they discussed things they had read with friends and family.

Average reading proficiency associated with having zero to two, three, or four of these types of materials in the home is shown in Table 8.4. The data for public school fourth-grade students in 1994 reveal that:

- In Wisconsin, 41 percent of the students reported having all four of these types of materials in the home. This figure was somewhat greater than that for the nation (36 percent).
- Students in Wisconsin who had all four of these types of materials in the home showed an average reading proficiency (230) that was higher than that of students with zero to two types of materials (213).

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TABLE 8.4

Public School Students' Reports on Types of Reading Materials in the Home

Does your family have, or receive on a regular basis, any of the following items: more than 25 books, an encyclopedia, newspapers, magazines?	Wisconsin	Central	Nation
	Percentage and Proficiency		
Zero to two types			
1992	23 (1.0) 214 (1.5)	29 (2.3) 206 (2.1)	33 (0.9) 203 (0.9)
1994	25 (1.4) 213 (2.0)	25 (2.5) 204 (4.1)	30 (0.9) 196 (1.5) <
Three types			
1992	36 (0.9) 223 (1.5)	33 (1.3) 220 (1.9)	32 (0.7) 217 (1.5)
1994	34 (1.1) 225 (1.4)	32 (1.3) 214 (2.9)	34 (0.7) 214 (1.3)
Four types			
1992	40 (1.2) 231 (1.2)	38 (2.0) 226 (2.4)	36 (1.0) 224 (1.4)
1994	41 (1.3) 230 (1.5)	43 (2.6) 230 (2.3)	36 (0.9) 225 (1.2)

The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500. The standard errors of the statistics appear in parentheses. It can be said with about 95 percent confidence that, for each population of interest, the value for the entire population is within ± 2 standard errors of the estimate for the sample. In comparing two estimates, one must use the standard error of the difference (see Appendix A for details). If the notation > (<) appears, it signifies that the value for public school students in 1994 was significantly higher (lower) than the value for 1992 at about the 95 percent confidence level.

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[55] L.C. Moll, "Literary Research in Community and Classrooms: A Sociocultural Approach," in B.D. Ruddell and H. Singer, Eds., *Theoretical Models of Reading*. (Newark, DE: International Reading Association, 1994), pp. 179-207; B. Rogoff, *Apprenticeship in Thinking*. (New York, NY: Oxford University Press, 1990); D. Taylor, *Family Literacy: Young Children Learning to Read and Write*. (Exeter, NH: Heinemann Educational Books, 1983).

Regarding the frequency with which fourth-grade public school students discuss what they read with friends and family, Table 8.5 shows that:

- In 1994 in Wisconsin, 23 percent of the students discussed with friends or family what they read almost every day. This percentage was smaller than that of students across the nation (28 percent).
- In 1994, the proficiency of students in Wisconsin who discussed what they read with friends or family almost every day (222) did not differ significantly from that of students that had discussions with friends or family less than weekly (221).

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TABLE 8.5

Public School Students' Reports on Talking With Friends and Family About Reading

How often do you talk with your friends or family about something you have read?	Wisconsin	Central	Nation
	Percentage and Proficiency		
Almost every day			
1992	22 (0.7) 223 (1.6)	24 (1.2) 217 (2.4)	27 (0.7) 213 (1.5)
1994	23 (0.9) 222 (1.7)	25 (1.5) 216 (3.9)	28 (0.7) 211 (1.4)
Once or twice a week			
1992	38 (0.9) 229 (1.1)	36 (2.5) 225 (1.9)	35 (1.0) 222 (1.2)
1994	40 (1.1) 229 (1.5)	37 (1.6) 226 (2.5)	35 (0.7) 221 (1.4)
Less than weekly			
1992	40 (1.0) 219 (1.5)	40 (3.0) 213 (1.9)	38 (1.2) 210 (1.3)
1994	37 (1.1) 221 (1.4)	38 (2.4) 213 (3.4)	37 (0.8) 208 (1.5)

The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500. The standard errors of the statistics appear in parentheses. It can be said with about 95 percent confidence that, for each population of interest, the value for the entire population is within ± 2 standard errors of the estimate for the sample. In comparing two estimates, one must use the standard error of the difference (see Appendix A for details). If the notation > (<) appears, it signifies that the value for public school students in 1994 was significantly higher (lower) than the value for 1992 at about the 95 percent confidence level.

Hours of Television Watched Per Day

Many avid student readers watch a lot of television, while other children neither watch much television nor read.[56] However, despite these findings, it is generally believed that television viewing has an effect on time given to reading — frequent television viewing limits the amount of time available for other activities such as reading.[57] Students participating in the Trial State Assessment Program were asked to report on the amount of television they watched each day. Table 8.6 shows that, in Wisconsin public schools in 1994:

- Less than one fifth of the fourth-grade students (14 percent) watched six hours or more of television each day. This was smaller than the figure for the nation, where 22 percent of the students watched this much television.
- Average reading proficiency in Wisconsin was lowest for students who spent six hours or more watching television each day.

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[56] S. Neuman, "The Home Environment and Fifth-grade Students' Leisure Reading," in *Elementary School Journal, 83*, (1986), pp. 333-343.

[57] P. Heather, *Young People's Reading: A Study of the Leisure Reading of 13-15 Year Olds*, (Sheffield, England: University of Sheffield, Center for Research on User Studies, 1981).

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TABLE 8.6

Public School Students' Reports on the Amount of Time Spent Watching Television Each Day

How much television do you usually watch each day?	Wisconsin	Central	Nation
	Percentage and Proficiency		
One hour or less			
1992	17 (0.9)	16 (1.0)	18 (0.8)
	226 (1.9)	222 (3.6)	219 (1.9)
1994	19 (1.0)	20 (1.8)	19 (0.7)
	229 (2.0)	228 (4.6)	217 (2.2)
Two hours			
1992	24 (1.0)	22 (1.9)	21 (0.9)
	229 (1.4)	226 (2.3)	222 (1.6)
1994	22 (0.9)	23 (1.2)	21 (0.6)
	230 (1.7)	226 (2.6)	220 (1.4)
Three hours			
1992	19 (0.9)	22 (1.4)	19 (0.7)
	227 (1.9)	225 (1.6)	222 (1.3)
1994	22 (0.8)	16 (1.0) <	16 (0.5) <
	228 (1.7)	222 (3.5)	219 (1.6)
Four to five hours			
1992	24 (0.8)	23 (0.7)	22 (0.9)
	224 (1.3)	214 (3.1)	215 (1.5)
1994	24 (1.1)	22 (1.4)	22 (0.8)
	221 (1.7)	219 (4.2)	215 (1.8)
Six hours or more			
1992	16 (1.0)	17 (1.0)	21 (0.8)
	210 (2.0)	199 (2.3)	198 (1.7)
1994	14 (1.0)	20 (1.7)	22 (0.7)
	209 (2.1)	198 (3.1)	193 (1.6)

The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500. The standard errors of the statistics appear in parentheses. It can be said with about 95 percent confidence that, for each population of interest, the value for the entire population is within ± 2 standard errors of the estimate for the sample. In comparing two estimates, one must use the standard error of the difference (see Appendix A for details). If the notation > (<) appears, it signifies that the value for public school students in 1994 was significantly higher (lower) than the value for 1992 at about the 95 percent confidence level.

APPENDIX A

Procedural Appendix

This appendix provides an overview of the technical details of the 1994 Trial State Assessment Program in reading. It includes a discussion of the history of NAEP, the assessment design, the reading framework and objectives upon which the assessment was based, and the procedures used to analyze the results.

A Recent History of NAEP

The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) is a congressionally mandated project of the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) that has collected and reported information since 1969 on what American students know and what they can do. It is the nation's only ongoing, comparable, and representative assessment of student achievement. Its assessments are given to representative samples of youths attending both public and non-public schools and enrolled in grades 4, 8, and 12.

In 1988, Congress authorized a new aspect of NAEP that allowed states and territories to participate voluntarily in a trial state assessment, using samples representative of their own students, to provide state-level data comparable to the nation and each of the other participating jurisdictions. Pursuant to that law, in 1990, the mathematics achievement of public school eighth graders was assessed in 40 jurisdictions (states, territories, and the District of Columbia). The results were reported in *The State of Mathematics Achievement: NAEP's 1990 Assessment of the Nation and the Trial Assessment of the States* (Washington, DC: National Center for Education Statistics, 1991). In 1992, the mathematics achievement of fourth- and eighth-grade public school students and the reading achievement of fourth-grade public school students were assessed in 44 jurisdictions. The results of these assessments were reported in *NAEP 1992 Mathematics Report Card for the Nation and the States* (Washington, DC: National Center for Education Statistics, 1993) and *NAEP 1992 Reading Report Card for the Nation and the States* (Washington, DC: National Center for Education Statistics, 1993).

For the 1994 Trial State Assessment Program, the reading achievement of fourth-grade students was again assessed in 44 jurisdictions. Forty jurisdictions involved in the 1992 assessment were also involved in the 1994 assessment. The results for Wisconsin are reported in this document.

A difference between the 1994 Trial State Assessment and previous Trial State Assessments is the addition of samples of non-public school students, in addition to the public school student samples. The purpose of this addition is to provide overall state-level data for each jurisdiction that is more easily comparable to overall state-level data for the other participating jurisdictions.

Over time there have been many changes in emphasis of NAEP assessment and reporting, both to take advantage of new technologies and to reflect changing trends in education. In 1984, a new technology called Item Response Theory (IRT) made it possible to create "scale scores" for NAEP similar to those the public was accustomed to seeing for the annual Scholastic Achievement Test (SAT). The 1992 reading reports marked NCES's continued attempt to shift to standards-based reporting. The transition was made to report NAEP results by "achievement levels." Achievement levels describe how students should perform relative to a body of content reflected in the NAEP frameworks (i.e., how *much* students should know). The impetus for this shift was grounded in the belief that NAEP data would take on more meaning for the public if they show what proportion of our youth are able to meet standards of performance necessary for a changing world. The 1994 report continues to use the achievement levels initially implemented in 1992.

Assessment Content

The objectives for the 1992 and 1994 assessments were developed through a consensus process managed by the Council of Chief State School Officers, and the items were developed through a similar process managed by Educational Testing Service. The development of the Trial State Assessment Program benefitted from the involvement of hundreds of representatives from State Education Agencies who attended numerous NETWORK meetings; served on committees; reviewed the framework, objectives, and questions; and, in general, provided important suggestions on all aspects of the program.

The reading assessment framework was a four-by-three matrix specifying four reading stances — Initial Understanding, Developing an Interpretation, Personal Reflection and Response, and Demonstrating a Critical Stance — and three reading purposes — reading for literary experience, reading to be informed, and reading to perform a task. However, the reading to perform a task category was not evaluated or reported for grade 4. Figures A.1 and A.2 describe the reading purposes and stances.

FIGURE A.1

Description of Reading Purposes

Reading involves an interaction between a specific type of text or written material and a reader who has a purpose for reading that is related to the type of text and the context of the reading situation. The 1992 and 1994 NAEP reading assessments presented three types of text to students representing each of three reading purposes: literary text for literary experience, informational text to gain information, and documents to perform a task. At grade 4, only the first two reading purposes were assessed. Each block in the assessment contains questions that assess only one reading purpose.

Reading for Literary Experience

Reading for literary experience involves reading literary text to explore the human condition, to relate narrative events with personal experience, and to consider the interplay in the selection among emotions, events, and possibilities. Students in the NAEP reading assessment were provided with a wide variety of literary texts such as short stories, poems, fables, historical fiction, science fiction, and mysteries.

Reading to Gain Information

Reading to gain information involves reading informative passages in order to obtain some general or specific information. This often requires a more utilitarian approach to reading that requires the use of certain reading/thinking strategies different from those used for other purposes. In addition, reading to gain information often involves reading and interpreting adjunct aids such as charts, graphs, maps, and tables that provide supplemental or tangential data. Informational passages in the NAEP reading assessment included biographies, science articles, encyclopedia entries, primary and secondary historical accounts, and newspaper editorials.

Reading to Perform a Task

Reading to perform a task involves reading various types of materials for the purpose of applying the information or directions in completing a specific task. The reader's purpose for gaining meaning extends beyond understanding the text to include the accomplishment of a certain activity. Documents requiring students in the NAEP reading assessment to perform a task included directions for creating a time capsule, instructions on how to write a letter to your Senator, a bus schedule, and a tax form. In 1992 and 1994, reading to perform a task was assessed only at grades 8 and 12.

FIGURE A.2

Description of Reading Stances

Readers interact with text in various ways as they use background knowledge and understanding of text to construct, extend, and examine meaning. The NAEP reading assessment framework specified four reading stances to be assessed that represent various interactions between readers and texts. These stances are not meant to describe a *hierarchy* of skills or abilities. Rather, they are intended to describe behaviors that readers at all developmental levels should exhibit.

Initial Understanding

Initial understanding requires a broad, preliminary construction of an understanding of the text. Questions testing this aspect ask the reader to provide an initial impression or unreflected understanding of what was read. In the 1992 and 1994 NAEP reading assessments, the first question following a passage was usually one testing initial understanding.

Developing an Interpretation

Developing an interpretation requires the reader to go beyond the initial impression to develop a more complete understanding of what was read. Questions testing this aspect require a more specific understanding of the text and involve linking information across parts of the text as well as focusing on specific information.

Personal Reflection and Response

Personal response requires the reader to connect knowledge from the text more extensively with his or her own personal background knowledge and experience. The focus is on how the text relates to personal experience, and questions on this aspect ask the readers to reflect and respond from a personal perspective. For the 1992 and 1994 NAEP reading assessments, personal response questions were typically formatted as constructed-response items to allow for individual possibilities and varied responses.

Demonstrating a Critical Stance

Demonstrating a critical stance requires the reader to stand apart from the text, consider it, and judge it objectively. Questions on this aspect require the reader to perform a variety of tasks such as critical evaluation, comparing and contrasting, applications to practical tasks, and understanding the impact of such text features as irony, humor, and organization. These questions focus on the reader as critic and require reflection on and judgments about how the text is written.

Assessment Design

The 1994 reading assessment was based on a *focused balanced incomplete block (BIB) spiral matrix design* — a design that enables broad coverage of reading content while minimizing the burden for any one student. The 1994 NAEP reading assessment for grades 4, 8, and 12 contained a total of 153 discrete constructed-response questions — 126 of which were short constructed-response (78 scored using a two-point scoring rubric and 48 using a three-point scoring rubric), and 27 of which were extended constructed-response questions (scored using a four-point scoring rubric). Some of the questions in the assessment were administered at more than one grade. Therefore, the sum of the number of questions administered at each grade does not equal the total number of questions in the assessment.

At grade 4, 84 reading questions were developed for the national assessment, including 37 short constructed-response questions, eight extended constructed-response questions, and 39 multiple-choice questions. These same questions were administered to the Trial State Assessment samples of grade 4 students. A subset of the grade 4 exercise pool consisted of questions that were previously administered in 1992. These "trend" questions made it possible to report the 1992 and 1994 results on a common scale.

The first step in implementing the BIB design required selecting grade-appropriate passages and developing questions to assess the four reading stances specified in the framework. The questions were assembled into units called *blocks*, with each block designed to be completed in 25 or 50 minutes. At grade 4, eight blocks were designed; they required 25 minutes of student time for completion. The blocks were assembled into assessment booklets so that each booklet contained three background questionnaires — the first consisting of general background questions, the second comprising reading background questions, and the third containing questions about the students' motivation to do well in the assessment — and two blocks of cognitive reading questions. The questions in the first section were read aloud to the students, usually taking about 10 minutes to complete. Students were then given 50 minutes to complete two 25-minute blocks of reading questions, five minutes to complete the second background questionnaire, and three minutes to complete the third background questionnaire. Thus, the assessment required slightly over one hour of student time.

In accordance with the BIB design, the blocks were assigned to the assessment booklets so that there were a total of 16 booklets at grade 4. Blocks of cognitive reading questions were paired with blocks assessing the same purpose for reading as well as blocks assessing other purposes. (Readers should refer to the 1994 NAEP State Technical Report for a more complete discussion of the BIB design.) The booklets were spiraled or interleaved in a systematic sequence so that each booklet appeared an appropriate number of times in the sample. The students within an assessment session were assigned booklets in the order in which the booklets were spiraled. Thus, students in any given session received a variety of different booklets and only a small number of students in the session received the same booklet.

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Participation Guidelines

Unless the overall participation rate is sufficiently high for a jurisdiction, there is a risk that the assessment results for that jurisdiction are subject to appreciable nonresponse bias. Moreover, even if the overall participation rate is high, there may be significant nonresponse bias if the nonparticipation that does occur is heavily concentrated among certain types of schools or students. The following guidelines concerning school and student participation rates in the Trial State Assessment Program were established to address four significant ways in which nonresponse bias could be introduced into the jurisdiction sample estimates. The conditions that will result in the publication of a jurisdiction's results are presented below. Also presented below are the conditions that will result in a jurisdiction receiving a notation in the 1994 reports. Note that in order for a jurisdiction's results to be published with no notations, that jurisdiction must satisfy all guidelines.

Guidelines on the Publication of NAEP Results

Guideline 1 — Publication of Public School Results

A jurisdiction will have its public school results published in the 1994 NAEP Reading Report Card if and only if its weighted participation rate for the initial sample of public schools is greater than or equal to 70 percent. Similarly, a jurisdiction will receive a separate NAEP State Report if and only if its weighted participation rate for the initial sample of public schools is greater than or equal to 70 percent.

Guideline 2 — Publication of Non-Public School Results

A jurisdiction will have its non-public school results published in the 1994 NAEP Reading Report Card if and only if its weighted participation rate for the initial sample of non-public schools is greater than or equal to 70 percent **AND** meets minimum sample size requirements.[1] A jurisdiction eligible to receive a separate NAEP State Report under guideline 1 will have its non-public school results included in that report if and only if that jurisdiction's weighted participation rate for the initial sample of non-public schools is greater than or equal to 70 percent **AND** meets minimum sample size requirements. If a jurisdiction meets guideline 2 but fails to meet guideline 1, a separate NAEP State Report will be produced containing only non-public school results.

Guideline 3 — Publication of Combined Public and Non-Public School Results

A jurisdiction will have its combined results published in the 1994 NAEP Reading Report Card if and only if both guidelines 1 and 2 are satisfied. Similarly, a jurisdiction eligible to receive a separate NAEP State Report under guideline 1 will have its combined results included in that report if and only if guideline 2 is also met.

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[1] Minimum sample size requirements for reporting non-public school data consist of two components: (1) a school sample size of six or more participating schools and (2) an assessed student sample size of at least 62.

Discussion: If a jurisdiction's public or non-public school participation rate for the initial sample of schools is below 70 percent there is a substantial possibility that bias will be introduced into the assessment results. This possibility remains even after making statistical adjustments to compensate for school nonparticipation. There remains the likelihood that, in aggregate, the substitute schools are sufficiently dissimilar from the originals that they are replacing and represent too great a proportion of the population to discount such a difference. Similarly, the assumptions underlying the use of statistical adjustments to compensate for nonparticipation are likely to be significantly violated if the initial response rate falls below the 70 percent level. Guidelines 1, 2, and 3 take this into consideration. These guidelines are congruent with current NAGB policy, which requires that data for jurisdictions that do not have a 70 percent before-substitution participation rate be reported "in a different format" and with the Education Information Advisory Committee (EIAC) resolution, which calls for data from such jurisdictions not to be published.

Guidelines on Notations of NAEP Results

Guideline 4 — Notation for Overall Public School Participation Rate

A jurisdiction which meets guideline 1 will receive a notation if its weighted participation rate for the initial sample of public schools was below 85 percent **AND** the weighted public school participation rate after substitution was below 90 percent.

Guideline 5 — Notation for Overall Non-Public School Participation Rate

A jurisdiction which meets guideline 2 will receive a notation if its weighted participation rate for the initial sample of non-public schools was below 85 percent **AND** the weighted non-public school participation rate after substitution was below 90 percent.

Discussion: For jurisdictions that did not use substitute schools, the participation rates are based on participating schools from the original sample. In these situations, the NCES standards specify weighted school participation rates of at least 85 percent to guard against potential bias due to school nonresponse. Thus, the first part of these guidelines, referring to the weighted school participation rate for the initial sample of schools, is in direct accordance with NCES standards.

To help ensure adequate sample representation for each jurisdiction participating in the 1994 Trial State Assessment Program, NAEP provided substitutes for nonparticipating public and non-public schools. When possible, a substitute school was provided for each initially selected school that declined participation before November 15, 1993. For jurisdictions that used substitute schools, the assessment results will be based on the student data from all schools participating from both the original sample and the list of substitutes (unless both an initial school and its substitute eventually participated, in which case only the data from the initial school will be used).

The NCES standards do not explicitly address the use of substitute schools to replace initially selected schools that decide not to participate in the assessment. However, considerable technical consideration was given to this issue. Even though the characteristics of the substitute schools were matched as closely as possible to the characteristics of the initially selected schools, substitution does not entirely eliminate bias due to the nonparticipation of initially selected schools. Thus, for the weighted school participation rates including substitute schools, the guidelines were set at 90 percent.

If a jurisdiction meets *either* standard (i.e., 85 percent or higher prior to substitution or 90 percent or higher after substitution) then there will be no notation for the relevant overall school participation rate.

Guideline 6 — Notation for Strata-Specific Public School Participation Rate

A jurisdiction which is not already receiving a notation under guideline 4 will receive a notation if the nonparticipating public schools included a class of schools with similar characteristics, which together accounted for more than five percent of the jurisdiction's total fourth-grade weighted sample of public schools. The classes of schools from each of which a jurisdiction needed minimum school participation levels were determined by degree of urbanization, minority enrollment, and median household income of the area in which the school is located.

Guideline 7 — Notation for Strata-Specific Non-Public School Participation Rate

A jurisdiction which is not already receiving a notation under guideline 5 will receive a notation if the nonparticipating non-public schools included a class of schools with similar characteristics, which together accounted for more than five percent of the jurisdiction's total fourth-grade weighted sample of non-public schools. The classes of schools from each of which a jurisdiction needed minimum school participation levels were determined by type of non-public school (Catholic versus non-Catholic) and location (metropolitan versus non-metropolitan).

Discussion: The NCES standards specify that attention should be given to the representativeness of the sample coverage. Thus, if some important segment of the jurisdiction's population is not adequately represented, it is of concern, regardless of the overall participation rate.

These guidelines address the fact that, if nonparticipating schools are concentrated within a particular class of schools, the potential for substantial bias remains, even if the overall level of school participation appears to be satisfactory. Nonresponse adjustment cells for public schools have been formed within each jurisdiction, and the schools within each cell are similar with respect to minority enrollment, degree of urbanization, and/or median household income, as appropriate for each jurisdiction. For non-public schools, nonresponse adjustment cells are determined by type and location of school.

If more than five percent (weighted) of the sampled schools (after substitution) are nonparticipants from a single adjustment cell, then the potential for nonresponse bias is too great. These guidelines are based on the NCES standard for strata-specific school nonresponse rates.

Guideline 8 — Notation for Overall Student Participation Rate in Public Schools

A jurisdiction which meets guideline 1 will receive a notation if the weighted student response rate within participating public schools was below 85 percent.

Guideline 9 — Notation for Overall Student Participation Rate in Non-Public Schools

A jurisdiction which meets guideline 2 will receive a notation if the weighted student response rate within participating non-public schools was below 85 percent.

Discussion: These guidelines follow the NCES standard of 85 percent for overall student participation rates. The weighted student participation rate is based on all eligible students from initially selected or substitute schools who participated in the assessment in either an initial session or a make-up session. If the rate falls below 85 percent, then the potential for bias due to students' nonresponse is too great.

Guideline 10 — Notation for Strata-Specific Student Participation Rate in Public Schools

A jurisdiction which is not already receiving a notation under guideline 8 will receive a notation if the nonresponding students within participating public schools included a class of students with similar characteristics, who together comprised more than five percent of the jurisdiction's weighted assessable public school student sample. Student groups from which a jurisdiction needed minimum levels of participation were determined by age of student and type of assessment session (unmonitored or monitored), as well as school level of urbanization, minority enrollment, and median household income of the area in which the school is located.

Guideline 11 — Notation for Strata-Specific Student Participation Rate in Non-Public Schools

> A jurisdiction which is not already receiving a notation under guideline 9 will receive a notation if the nonresponding students within participating non-public schools included a class of students with similar characteristics, who together comprised more than five percent of the jurisdiction's weighted assessable non-public school student sample. Student groups from which a jurisdiction needed minimum levels of participation were determined by age of student and type of assessment session (unmonitored or monitored), as well as type and location of school.

Discussion: These guidelines address the fact that if nonparticipating students are concentrated within a particular class of students, the potential for substantial bias remains, even if the overall student participation level appears to be satisfactory. Student nonresponse adjustment cells have been formed using the school-level nonresponse adjustment cells, together with the student's age and the nature of the assessment session (unmonitored or monitored). If more than five percent (weighted) of the invited students who do not participate in the assessment are from a single adjustment cell, then the potential for nonresponse bias is too great. These guidelines are based on the NCES standard for strata-specific student nonresponse rates.

Data Analysis and Scales

Once the assessments were conducted and information from the assessment booklets had been compiled in a database, the assessment data were weighted to match known population proportions and adjusted for nonresponse. Analyses were then conducted to determine the percentages of students who gave various responses to each cognitive and background question.

For both the 1992 and 1994 assessments, item response theory (IRT) was used to estimate average reading proficiency for each jurisdiction and for various subpopulations, based on students' performance on the set of reading questions they received. IRT provides a common scale on which performance can be reported for the nation, each jurisdiction, and subpopulations, even when all students do not answer the same set of questions. Furthermore, these IRT scales provide a mechanism for comparing the reading results obtained in 1994 with those from 1992 even though there were some differences between the sets of questions that were administered in the two assessment years. This common scale makes it possible to report on relationships between students' characteristics (based on their responses to the background questions) and their overall performance on the assessment.

The results from the 1994 assessment are reported on scales ranging from 0 to 500 that were created to summarize performance for each of the two reading purposes at grade 4 (reading for literary experience and reading to gain information). The scales summarize examinee performance across all four question types used in the assessment (multiple-choice, dichotomously-scored constructed-response, regular constructed-response, and extended constructed-response). In producing the scales, three distinct IRT models were used. Multiple-choice questions were scaled using the three-parameter logistic model; dichotomously-scored constructed-response questions were scaled using the two-parameter logistic model; the regular and extended constructed-response questions were scaled using a generalized partial-credit model. Each reading purpose scale was based on the distribution of student performance across the grades assessed in the 1992 national assessment (grades 4, 8, and 12) and had a mean of 250 and a standard deviation of 50 for that reference population. A composite scale was created as an overall measure of students' reading proficiency. At grade 4, the composite scale was a weighted average of the two reading purpose scales, where the weight for each reading purpose was proportional to the relative importance assigned to that purpose in the specifications developed by the Reading Objectives Panel (55 percent for the literary experience scale and 45 percent for the gaining information scale).

Questionnaires for Teachers and Schools

As part of the Trial State Assessment Program, questionnaires were given to the reading teachers of assessed students and to the principal or other administrator in each participating school. A Background Panel drafted a set of issues and guidelines and made recommendations concerning the design of these questionnaires. For the 1992 and 1994 assessments, the teacher and school questionnaires focused on five educational areas: instructional content, instructional practices and experiences, teacher characteristics, school conditions and context, and conditions beyond school (i.e., home support, out-of-school activities, and attitudes). Similar to the development of the materials given to students, the guidelines and the teacher and school questionnaires were prepared through an iterative process that involved extensive development, field testing, and review by external advisory groups.

It is important to note that in this report, as in all NAEP reports, the student is always the unit of analysis, even when information from the teacher or school questionnaire is being reported. Having the student as the unit of analysis makes it possible to describe the instruction received by representative samples of fourth-grade students. Although this approach may provide a different perspective from that which would be obtained by simply collecting information from a sample of fourth-grade reading teachers or from a sample of schools, it is consistent with NAEP's goal of providing information about the educational context and performance of students.

The questionnaires for fourth-grade teachers consisted of two parts. The first requested information about the teacher, such as race/ethnicity and gender, as well as academic degrees held, teaching certification, training in reading, and the availability of instructional resources. In the second part, teachers were asked to provide information on each class they taught that included one or more students who participated in the Trial State Assessment Program. The information included, among other things, the extent to which worksheets or workbooks were used and the frequency with which various instructional approaches were employed. Because of the nature of the sampling for the Trial State Assessment Program, the responses to the reading teacher questionnaire do not necessarily represent all fourth-grade reading teachers in a jurisdiction. Rather, they represent the teachers of the particular students being assessed.

An extensive school questionnaire was completed by principals or other administrators in the schools participating in the Trial State Assessment Program. The school questionnaire contained questions about school policies, course offerings, and special priority areas, among other topics.

Estimating Variability

The statistics reported by NAEP (average proficiencies, percentages of students at or above particular achievement levels, and percentages of students responding in certain ways to background questions) are *estimates* of the corresponding information for the population of fourth-grade students in public or non-public schools in a jurisdiction. These estimates are based on the performance of carefully selected, representative *samples* of fourth-grade students from the jurisdiction.

If a different representative sample of students were selected and the assessment repeated, it is likely that the estimates might vary somewhat, and both of these sample estimates might differ somewhat from the value of the mean or percentage that would be obtained if every fourth-grade public or non-public school student in the jurisdiction were assessed. Virtually all statistics that are based on samples (including those in NAEP) are subject to a certain degree of uncertainty. The uncertainty attributable to using samples of students is referred to as *sampling error*.

Like almost all estimates based on assessment measures, NAEP's total group and subgroup performance estimates are subject to a second source of uncertainty, in addition to sampling error. As previously noted, each student who participated in the Trial State Assessment Program was administered a subset of questions from the total set of questions. If each student had been administered a different, but equally appropriate, set of the assessment questions — or the entire set of questions — somewhat different estimates of total group and subgroup performance might have been obtained. Thus, a second source of uncertainty arises because each student was administered a subset of the total pool of questions.

The measures of uncertainty of the estimates of reading performance statistics reflect both sources of uncertainty discussed above. These measures of the uncertainty are called *standard errors* and are given in parentheses in each of the tables in the report. Standard errors reflecting both sampling and measurement error are reported for estimates of average proficiency and percentage of students at or above particular achievement levels. The standard errors of the other statistics (such as the percentage of students answering a background question in a certain way or the percentage of students in certain racial/ethnic groups) reflect only sampling error. NAEP uses a methodology called the jackknife procedure to estimate all of these standard errors.

The reader is reminded that, as in all surveys, NAEP results are also subject to other kinds of errors including the effects of necessarily imperfect adjustment for student and school nonresponse and other largely unknowable effects associated with the particular instrumentation and data collection methods used. Nonsampling errors can be attributed to a number of sources: inability to obtain complete information about all selected students in all selected schools in the sample (some students or schools refused to participate, or students participated but answered only certain questions); ambiguous definitions; differences in interpreting questions; inability or unwillingness to give correct information; mistakes in recording, coding, or scoring data; and other errors of collecting, processing, sampling, and estimating missing data. The extent of nonsampling errors is difficult to estimate. By their nature, the impact of such errors cannot be reflected in the data-based estimates of uncertainty provided in NAEP reports.

Drawing Inferences from the Results

One of the goals of the Trial State Assessment Program is to make inferences about the overall population of fourth-grade students in each participating jurisdiction based on the particular sample of students assessed. The results from the sample — taking into account the uncertainty associated with all samples — are used to make inferences about the population. The use of *confidence intervals*, based on the standard errors, provides a way to make inferences about the population means and percentages in a manner that reflects the uncertainty associated with the sample estimates. An estimated sample mean proficiency ± 2 standard errors approximates a *95 percent confidence interval* for the corresponding population quantity. This means that with approximately 95 percent confidence, the average performance of the entire population of interest (e.g., all fourth-grade students in public schools in a jurisdiction) is within ± 2 standard errors of the sample mean.

As an example, suppose that the average reading proficiency of the students in a particular jurisdiction's fourth-grade sample were 256 with a standard error of 1.2. A 95 percent confidence interval for the population quantity would be as follows:

$$\text{Mean} \pm 2 \text{ standard errors} = 256 \pm 2 \times (1.2) = 256 \pm 2.4 =$$

$$256 - 2.4 \text{ and } 256 + 2.4 = (253.6, 258.4)$$

Thus, one can conclude with 95 percent confidence that the average proficiency for the entire population of fourth-grade students in public schools in that jurisdiction is between 253.6 and 258.4.

Similar confidence intervals can be constructed for percentages, *provided that the percentages are not extremely large (greater than 90 percent) or extremely small (less than 10 percent).* For extreme percentages, confidence intervals constructed in the above manner may not be appropriate and procedures for obtaining accurate confidence intervals are quite complicated.

Analyzing Subgroup Differences in Proficiencies and Percentages

In addition to the overall results, this report presents outcomes separately for a variety of important subgroups. Many of these subgroups are defined by shared characteristics of students, such as their gender or race/ethnicity, and the type of location in which their school is situated. Other subgroups are defined by students' responses to background questions. Still other subgroups are defined by the responses of the assessed students' reading teachers to questions in the reading teacher questionnaire.

In Chapter 1 of this report, differences between the jurisdiction and nation were tested for overall reading proficiency and for each of the purposes for reading. In Chapter 2, significance tests were conducted for the overall proficiency for each of the subpopulations. Chapter 3 reports differences between the jurisdiction and nation for the percentage of students at or above the Proficient level, and Chapter 4 contains significance tests for the percentage of students at or above the Proficient level for each of the subpopulations. In Chapters 5-8, comparisons were made across subgroups for responses made to various background questions.

As an example, consider the question: *Do students who reported reading three or four books outside of school each month exhibit higher average reading proficiency than students who reported reading no books outside of school?*

To answer the question posed above, begin by comparing the average reading proficiency for the two groups being analyzed. If the mean for the group that reported reading three or four books outside of school is higher, it may be tempting to conclude that that group does have higher reading proficiency than the group that reported reading no books outside of school. However, even though the means differ, there may be no real difference in performance between the two groups in the population because of the uncertainty associated with the estimated average proficiency of the groups in the sample. Remember that the intent is to make a statement about the entire population, not about the particular sample that was assessed. The data from the sample are used to make inferences about the population as a whole.

As discussed in the previous section, each estimated sample mean proficiency (or percentage) has a degree of uncertainty associated with it. It is therefore possible that if all students in the population had been assessed, rather than a sample of students, or if the assessment had been repeated with a different sample of students or a different, but equivalent, set of questions, the performances of various groups would have been different. Thus, to determine whether there is a *real* difference between the mean proficiency (or percentage of a certain attribute) for two groups in the population, an estimate of the degree of uncertainty associated with the difference between the proficiency means or percentages of those groups must be obtained for the sample. This estimate of the degree of uncertainty — called *the standard error of the difference* between the groups — is obtained by taking the square of each group's standard error, summing these squared standard errors, and then taking the square root of this sum.

Similar to the manner in which the standard error for an individual group mean or percentage is used, the *standard error of the difference* can be used to help determine whether differences between groups in the population are real. The difference between the mean proficiency or percentage of the two groups ± *2 standard errors of the difference* represents an approximate 95 percent confidence interval. If the resulting interval includes zero, there is insufficient evidence to claim a real difference between groups in the population. If the interval does not contain zero, the difference between groups is *statistically significant* (different) at the .05 level.

As another example, to determine whether the average reading proficiency of fourth-grade females is higher than that of fourth-grade males in a particular jurisdiction's public schools, suppose that the sample estimates of the mean proficiencies and standard errors for females and males were as follows:

Group	Average Proficiency	Standard Error
Female	259	2.0
Male	255	2.1

The difference between the estimates of the mean proficiencies of females and males is four points (259 - 255). The standard error of this difference is

$$\sqrt{2.0^2 + 2.1^2} = 2.9$$

Thus, an approximate 95 percent confidence interval for this difference is

$$\text{Mean difference} \pm 2 \text{ standard errors of the difference} =$$

$$4 \pm 2 \times (2.9) = 4 \pm 5.8 = 4 - 5.8 \text{ and } 4 + 5.8 = (-1.8, 9.8)$$

The value zero is within this confidence interval, which extends from -1.8 to 9.8 (i.e., zero is between -1.8 and 9.8). Thus, there is insufficient evidence to claim a difference in average reading proficiency between the populations of fourth-grade females and males in public schools in the jurisdiction.[2]

Throughout this report, when the mean proficiencies or percentages for two groups were compared, procedures like the one described above were used to draw the conclusions that are presented. If a statement appears in the report indicating that a particular group had *higher (or lower)* average proficiency than a second group, the 95 percent confidence interval for the difference between groups did not contain zero. When a statement indicates that the average proficiency or percentage of some attribute was ***not significantly different*** for two groups, the confidence interval included zero, and thus no difference could be assumed between the groups. The information described in this section also pertains to comparisons between 1992 and 1994. The reader is cautioned to avoid drawing conclusions solely on the basis of the magnitude of the differences. A difference between two groups in the sample that appears to be slight may represent a statistically significant difference in the population because of the magnitude of the standard errors. Conversely, a difference that appears to be large may not be statistically significant.

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[2] The procedure described above (especially the estimation of the standard error of the difference) is, in a strict sense, only appropriate when the statistics being compared come from independent samples. For certain comparisons in the report, the groups were not independent. In those cases, a different (and more appropriate) estimate of the *standard error of the difference* was used.

The procedures described in this section, and the certainty ascribed to intervals (e.g., a 95 percent confidence interval), are based on statistical theory that assumes that only one confidence interval or test of statistical significance is being performed. However, in each chapter of this report, many different groups are being compared (i.e., multiple sets of confidence intervals are being analyzed). In sets of confidence intervals, statistical theory indicates that the certainty associated with the entire set of intervals is less than that attributable to each individual comparison from the set. To hold the certainty level for the set of comparisons at a particular level (e.g., .95), adjustments (called multiple comparison procedures) must be made to the methods described in the previous section. One such procedure — the *Bonferroni method* — was used in the analyses described in this report to form confidence intervals for the differences between groups whenever sets of comparisons were considered. Thus, the confidence intervals in the text that are based on sets of comparisons are more conservative than those described on the previous pages. A more detailed description of the use of the Bonferroni procedure appears in the 1994 NAEP State Technical Report.

Statistics with Poorly Estimated Standard Errors

The standard errors for means and proportions reported by NAEP are statistics and therefore are subject to a certain degree of uncertainty. In certain cases, typically when the standard error is based on a small number of students, or when the group of students is enrolled in a small number of schools, the amount of uncertainty associated with the standard errors may be quite large. Throughout this report, estimates of standard errors subject to a large degree of uncertainty are followed by the symbol "!". In such cases, the standard errors — and any confidence intervals or significance tests involving these standard errors — should be interpreted cautiously. Further details concerning procedures for identifying such standard errors are discussed in the 1994 NAEP State Technical Report.

Minimum Subgroup Sample Sizes

Results for reading performance and background variables were tabulated and reported for groups defined by race/ethnicity, type of location, parents' education level, and gender. NAEP collects data for six racial/ethnic subgroups (White, Black, Hispanic, Asian, Pacific Islander, and American Indian/Alaskan Native), three types of locations (Central City, Urban Fringe/Large Town, and Rural/Small Town), and five levels of parents' education (Graduated College, Some Education After High School, Graduated High School, Did Not Finish High School, and I Don't Know). In the past, NAEP collected information for only five racial/ethnic subgroups, with Asian and Pacific Islander students combined into one subgroup. In addition, previous NAEP reports reported data for four types of communities, rather than for the three types of location. These types of communities were Advantaged Urban, Disadvantaged Urban, Extreme Rural, and Other types of communities.

In many jurisdictions, and for some regions of the country, the number of students in some of these groups was not sufficiently high to permit accurate estimation of performance and/or background variable results. As a result, data are not provided for the subgroups with very small sample sizes or for the subgroups with students from very few schools. For results to be reported for any Trial State Assessment Program subgroup, at least ten public schools or six non-public schools must be represented in the subgroup. For results to be reported for any National Assessment subgroup, at least five primary sampling units (PSU's) must be represented in the subgroup. In addition, a minimum sample of 62 students per subgroup was required. For statistical tests pertaining to subgroups, the sample size for both groups had to meet the minimum sample size requirements.

The minimum sample size of 62 was determined by computing the sample size required to detect an effect size of .5 total-group standard deviation units with a probability of .8 or greater. The effect size of .5 pertains to the *true* difference between the average proficiency of the subgroup in question and the average proficiency for the total fourth-grade public school population in the jurisdiction, divided by the standard deviation of the proficiency in the total population. If the *true* difference between subgroup and total group mean is .5 total-group standard deviation units, then a sample size of at least 62 is required to detect such a difference with a probability of .8. Further details about the procedure for determining minimum sample size appear in the 1994 NAEP State Technical Report.

Describing the Size of Percentages

Some of the percentages reported in the text of the report are given qualitative descriptions. For example, the number of students being taught by teachers with master's degrees in education might be described as "relatively few" or "almost all," depending on the size of the percentage in question. Any convention for choosing descriptive terms for the magnitude of percentages is to some degree arbitrary. The descriptive phrases used in the report and the rules used to select them are shown on the following page.

Percentage	Description of Text in Report
$p = 0$	None
$0 < p \leq 8$	A small percentage
$8 < p \leq 13$	Relatively few
$13 < p \leq 18$	Less than one fifth
$18 < p \leq 22$	About one fifth
$22 < p \leq 27$	About one quarter
$27 < p \leq 30$	Less than one third
$30 < p \leq 36$	About one third
$36 < p \leq 47$	Less than half
$47 < p \leq 53$	About half
$53 < p \leq 64$	More than half
$64 < p \leq 71$	About two thirds
$71 < p \leq 79$	About three quarters
$79 < p \leq 89$	A large majority
$89 < p < 100$	Almost all
$p = 100$	All

Changes to Student, Teacher, and School Questionnaire Items Between 1992 and 1994

As described in Part Three of this report, some of the questions asked of students, teachers, and schools in 1992 about students' instructional experiences were either reformatted and/or reworded for the 1994 assessment. Although this allowed for more precise and relevant data collection, it was not possible to report trend results on those particular questions. Furthermore, some questions were reworded substantially so as to warrant the reporting of only 1994 results. This section describes the nature of the changes that precluded making trend comparisons, and in some cases precluded reporting the 1992 results. Also, the specific questionnaire items reported in this publication that were reformatted and/or reworded are identified.

Questions for which 1992 and 1994 results are reported, but trend comparisons are not made. One change between the 1992 and 1994 teacher questionnaires at grade 4 was the reformatting of questions from a five-column response format to a single question format. With the five-column format used in 1992, teachers were asked to identify in which period or periods (of up to 5 class periods) they taught students who participated in the NAEP reading assessment. They were then asked to describe the instructional approaches they used for each class period in which they had a student taking part in the assessment. This allowed teachers to describe different instructional approaches that may have been used for up to 5 different reading classes, if in fact their approach varied across groups of students. For 1994, the teacher questionnaire was revised so that teachers were only asked to respond once to each question in terms of their typical approach, or the one they use most often with all of their students. This change was made in the grade 4 teacher questionnaire out of recognition that most teachers at this level teach self-contained classes.

Although in most cases, the wording did not change or changed minimally, it was determined that the reformatting of the questionnaires and the refocusing of teachers' responses from specific approaches for individual class periods to typical approaches across classes, constituted enough change to preclude comparing responses between the two assessments. Because the wording changes were minimal, data are reported from both assessments — but trend comparisons were not conducted. Of the items reported in this publication, the following were either reformatted or were reworded minimally:

1992 Version	**1994 Version**
Has your school identified any of the following subjects as a priority in the last two years (i.e., does the subject receive special emphasis in schoolwide goals and objectives, instruction, in-service training, etc.)? • Reading • Writing • Mathematics • Integration of separate subjects	*Has your school identified any of the following subjects as a priority in the last two years (i.e., does the subject receive special emphasis in schoolwide goals and objectives, instruction, workshops, etc.)?* • Reading • Mathematics • Science • U.S. history • World geography • Integration of separate subjects
(five-column formatting) *Are students assigned to this class by ability?* • Yes • No	(single-column formatting) *Are students assigned to this class by ability?* • Yes • No
(five-column formatting) *About how much time do you spend with this class for reading instruction on a typical day?* • 30 minutes • 45 minutes • 60 minutes • 90 minutes or more	(single-column formatting) *About how much time do you spend with this class for reading instruction on a typical day?* • 30 minutes • 45 minutes • 60 minutes • 90 minutes or more

(five-column formatting)

What type of materials form the core of your reading program?

- Primarily basal
- Primarily trade books
- Both basal and trade books
- Other

(five-column formatting)

How often do you [teacher] *use the following resources to teach reading in this class?*

- Children's newspapers and/or magazines
- Reading kits
- Computer software for reading instruction
- A variety of books (e.g., novels, collections of poetry, nonfiction)
- Materials from other subject areas

(five-column formatting)

How often do you [teacher] *do the following things as a part of reading instruction with this class?*

- Ask students to work in a reading workbook or on a worksheet
- Ask students to write about something they have read
- Discuss new or difficult vocabulary
- Ask students to talk with each other about what they have read
- Ask students to do a group activity or project about what they have read
- Ask students to read aloud
- Ask students to read silently

When you [student] *read in school, how often does your teacher do each of the following?*

- Ask you to read silently
- Give you time to read books you have chosen yourself

(single-column formatting)

What type of materials form the core of your reading program?

- Primarily basal
- Primarily trade books
- Both basal and trade books
- Other

(single-column formatting)

How often do you [teacher] *use the following resources to teach reading in this class?*

- Children's newspapers and/or magazines
- Reading kits
- Computer software for reading instruction
- A variety of books (e.g., novels, collections of poetry, nonfiction)
- Materials from other subject areas

(single-column formatting)

How often do you [teacher] *do the following things as a part of reading instruction with this class?*

- Ask students to work in a reading workbook or on a worksheet
- Ask students to write about something they have read
- Discuss new or difficult vocabulary
- Ask students to talk with each other about what they have read
- Ask students to do a group activity or project about what they have read
- Ask students to read aloud
- Ask students to read silently

When you [student] *have reading assignments in school, how often does your teacher do each of the following?*

- Ask you to read silently
- Give you time to read books you have chosen yourself

(five-column formatting) *How often do you* [teacher] *do each of the following with the students in this class?* • Send or take the class to the library • Assign students to read a book from the library	(single-column formatting) *How often do you* [teacher] *do each of the following with the students in this class?* • Send or take the class to the library • Assign students to read a book from the library
(five-column formatting) *How often do you use each of the following to assess student progress in reading?* • Multiple-choice tests • Reading portfolios	(single-column formatting) *How often do you use each of the following to assess student progress in reading?* • Multiple-choice tests • Reading portfolios
During the last year, how much time in total have you spent on in-service education in reading or the teaching of reading? Include attendance at professional meetings and conferences, workshops, and courses. • None • Less than 6 hours • 6-15 hours • 16-35 hours • More than 35 hours	*During the last year, how much time in total have you spent in staff development workshops or seminars in reading or the teaching of reading? Include attendance at professional meetings and conferences, workshops, and college or university courses.* • None • Less than 6 hours • 6-15 hours • 16-35 hours • More than 35 hours

Questions for which only 1994 results are presented. In other cases, the actual wording of the item was changed sufficiently to preclude trend reporting. Because of the substantial wording changes, 1992 results for these questions are not presented in this report. Of the items reported in this publication, the following were reworded substantially between 1992 and 1994.

1992 Version	**1994 Version**
When you [student] *read in school, how often does your teacher do each of the following?* • Ask students to talk to each other about what they have read • Ask students to do a group activity or project about what they have read • Ask students to read aloud	*When you* [student] *have reading assignments in school, how often does your teacher do each of the following?* • Ask you to talk to other students about what you have read • Ask you to do a group activity or project about what you have read • Ask you to read aloud
(five-column formatting) *How often do you* [teacher] *do the following things as a part of reading instruction with this class?* • Provide time to have students read books of their own choosing	(single-column formatting) *How often do you* [teacher] *do the following things as a part of reading instruction with this class?* • Give students time to read books they have chosen themselves
(five-column formatting) *How often do you* [teacher] *do each of the following to assess student progress in reading?* • Writing paragraphs about what they have read	(single-column formatting) *How often do you* [teacher] *do each of the following to assess student progress in reading?* • Paragraph length written responses about what students have read
What is the highest academic degree you [teacher] *hold?* • Less than a bachelor's degree • Bachelor's degree • Master's degree • Educational specialist's or professional diploma based on at least one year's work past master's degree • Doctorate • Professional degree (e.g., M.D., LL.B., J.D., D.D.S.)	*What is the highest academic degree you* [teacher] *hold?* • High-school diploma • Associate's degree/vocational certification • Bachelor's degree • Master's degree • Education specialist's or professional diploma based on at least one year's work past master's degree • Doctorate • Professional degree (e.g., M.D., LL.B., J.D., D.D.S.)

What type of teaching certification do you [teacher] *have that is recognized by the state in which you teach?*
- None, temporary, probational, provisional, or emergency certification
- Regular certification but lower than the highest available certification
- The highest certification available

What were your undergraduate major fields of study?
- Education
- English, reading, and/or language arts
- Mathematics
- Mathematics education
- Other

What were your graduate major fields of study?
- Education
- English, reading and/or language arts
- Mathematics
- Mathematics education
- Other
- No graduate-level study

What type of teaching certification do you [teacher] *have that is recognized by the state in which you teach?*
- None
- Temporary, probational, provisional, or emergency certification
- Regular certification but less than the highest available
- The highest certification available (permanent or long term)

What were your undergraduate major fields of study?
- Education
- English
- Reading and/or language arts
- Geography
- History
- Social Studies education
- Other

What were your graduate major fields of study?
- Education
- English
- Reading and/or language arts
- Geography
- History
- Social Studies education
- Other
- No graduate-level study

Revisions to the 1992 and 1994 Findings

In April 1995, results from the 1994 National and Trial State Assessment of reading were released as part of the report *NAEP 1994 Reading: A First Look*. Subsequently, ETS/NAEP discovered an error in the documentation for the ETS program used to compute NAEP scale score results. The error affected how omitted responses were treated in the IRT scaling of the extended constructed-response questions that received partial-credit scoring. The error affected only those questions; omitted multiple-choice and omitted short constructed responses were treated appropriately.

The conventional treatment in NAEP subjects has been to treat omitted responses (blank responses to a question that are followed by valid responses to questions that appear later in the block) as the lowest possible score category in the production of NAEP scale scores. In contrast, not-reached responses (blank responses that are not followed by any further student responses) are treated as missing data. As a result of the documentation error, for a number of the polytomous constructed-response questions and across several subject areas, *all* blank responses (both omitted and not-reached responses) to affected questions were treated as missing — an *acceptable* treatment but *not* the *conventional* option of choice for NAEP.

The error affected a number of the NAEP scales constructed since 1992. Specifically, the 1992 and 1994 national and state reading results were affected by the error. Results from these two assessments have been released to the public in a number of NAEP publications. The 1992 data are also available to the public through NCES's secondary-use data files.

It should be noted that this processing error also impacted the location of the National Assessment Governing Board (NAGB) achievement levels in reading, which were set on the 1992 scales.

NCES and ETS felt that the most technically correct plan of action would be to recalculate all affected NAEP scales, no matter how slight the change, and to issue revised results. ETS was therefore instructed by NCES to recalculate all affected scales and to work with American College Testing (ACT) in the recomputation of the achievement level cutpoints.

In recomputing the cutpoints, an additional error was discovered in the procedures used by ACT in 1992 to "map" the achievement level cutpoints onto the NAEP scale. The procedures contained an incorrectly derived formula. ACT used revised procedures with the correct formula to map the achievement level cutpoints for the 1994 history and geography scales. However, the error in the earlier procedures did affect achievement level cutpoints for reading, which were established during the 1992 assessment. The 1992 national and state reading achievement level results were further impacted by this additional error.

A new version of the *NAEP 1994 Reading: A First Look* report, containing the revised reading results, was issued by NCES in the fall of 1995. The main release of NAEP reading results, including the *Reading Report Card, Cross-state Data Compendium*, individual state reports, almanacs, technical report, and data files, originally scheduled for the end of September, took place instead in late fall.

While some *small* changes in scale score results were found, the revised numbers for reading are quite similar to the results released in 1992 and to those published in the NCES April release of the reading *First-Look* report. More specifically, the revised reading results are *substantively equivalent* to the originally published 1992 results and to the results released in the *First Look*. Regarding the 1992 and 1994 national assessment data, fourth-grade results are about 1 point lower than originally reported, while twelfth-grade results are about 1 point higher. These changes are small and not substantively meaningful. The eighth-grade numbers are essentially unchanged. The revised numbers indicate the same relative distances between reporting subgroups (*i.e.*, race/ethnicity subgroups, male, female, etc.). The significant national score decline at grade 12 is totally unaffected by the revision, as is the absence of significant changes at grades 4 and 8.

With regard to the state assessment data, all jurisdictions were affected to roughly the same degree. Thus, the revised rank ordering of state performance in both 1992 and 1994 is essentially identical to that originally published. Original and revised trend results (i.e., the change in scores between 1992 and 1994) are extremely close for all the jurisdictions. However, in four instances (for Massachusetts, New Jersey, Utah, and California), the small changes engendered by the revision are sufficient to affect the statistical significance of the change. For Massachusetts, New Jersey, and Utah, the revised decline in scores is between 0.3 and 0.5 points smaller than the originally released results — a magnitude of change that was typical across *all* participants. When rounded to an integer, the original and revised declines for Massachusetts and New Jersey are of identical size and the decline for Utah went from 4 points to 3 points. Despite this similarity, the revised results for these states are no longer statistically significant since the original results were right on the margin of statistical significance. In California, the revised decline in scores is 0.4 points larger than the originally released results and is now statistically significant.

In the results for state assessment achievement levels, there is little difference in the revised and original numbers from an interpretive standpoint. As expected, correction of the ACT error generally results in lower achievement level cutpoints and, hence, slightly higher percentages above the various cutpoints. The revised achievement level results in this technical report and in the reading reports reflect the change in the formula used in setting the achievement levels.

There is one notable aspect of the revised state assessment achievement level results. Prior to the revision, only one state, Arizona, had shown a statistically significant increase from 1992 to 1994 in the percentage of students at the *Advanced* level. Based on the revised results, six more states — Connecticut, Florida, Kentucky, Maine, Mississippi, and Maryland — also showed a statistically significant increase at that level.

APPENDIX B

Reading Stimuli

This appendix contains replications of two of the eight reading passages used as the stimuli at grade 4.

SYBIL SOUNDS THE ALARM

by Drollene P. Brown

A red sky at night does not usually cause wonder. But on the evening of April 26, 1777, the residents of Ludingtons' Mills were concerned. The crimson glow was in the east, not from the west where the sun was setting.

The Ludington family sat at supper, each one glancing now and again toward the eastern window. Sybil, at sixteen the oldest of eight children, could read the question in her mother's worried eyes. Would Henry Ludington have to go away again? As commander of the only colonial army regiment between Danbury, Connecticut, and Peekskill, New York, Sybil's father did not have much time to be with his family.

Thudding hooves in the yard abruptly ended their meal. The colonel pushed back his chair and strode to the door. Although Sybil followed him with her eyes, she dutifully began to help her sister Rebecca clear the table.

The girls were washing dishes when their father burst back into the room with a courier at his side.

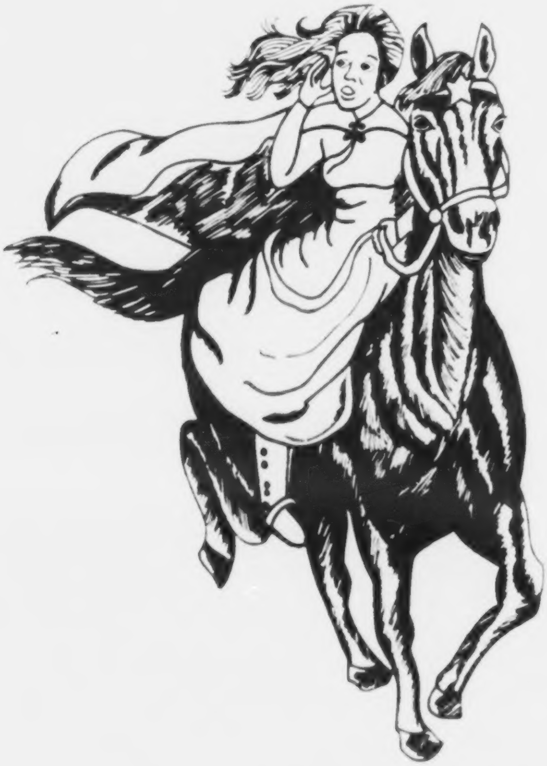
"Here, Seth," said the colonel, "sit you down and have some supper. Rebecca, see to our weary friend."

Sybil, glancing over her shoulder, saw that the stranger was no older than she. A familiar flame of indignation burned her cheeks. Being a girl kept her from being a soldier!

Across the room, her parents were talking together in low tones. Her father's voice rose.

"Sybil, leave the dishes and come here," he said.

Obeying quickly, she overheard her father as he again spoke to her mother.



"Abigail, she is a skilled rider. It is Sybil who has trained Star, and the horse will obey her like no other."

"That red glow in the sky," Colonel Ludington said, turning now to his daughter, "is from Danbury. It's been burned by British raiders. There are about two thousand Redcoats, and they're heading for Ridgefield. Someone must tell our men that the lull in the fighting is over; they will have to leave their families and crops again."

"I'll go! Star and I can do it!" Sybil exclaimed. She faced her mother. "Star is sure of foot, and will carry me safely."

"There are dangers other than slippery paths," her mother said, softly. "Outlaws or deserters or Tories or even British soldiers may be met. You must be wary in a way that Star cannot."

A lump rose in Sybil's throat. "I can do it," she declared.

Without another word, Abigail Ludington turned to fetch a woolen cape to protect her daughter from the wind and rain. One of the boys was sent to saddle Star, and Sybil was soon ready. When she had swung up on her sturdy horse, the colonel placed a stick in her hand.

As though reciting an oath, she repeated her father's directions: "Go south by the river, then along Horse

Pond Road to Mohopac Pond. From there, turn right to Red Mills, then go north to Stormville." The colonel stood back and saluted. She was off!

At the first few isolated houses, windows or doors flew open as she approached. She shouted her message and rode on. By the time she reached the first hamlet, all was dark. There were many small houses there at the edge of Shaw's Road, but everyone was in bed. Lights had not flared up at the sound of Star's hoofbeats. Sybil had not anticipated this. Biting her lower lip, she pulled Star to a halt. After considering for a moment, she nudged the horse forward, and riding up to one cottage after another, beat on each door with her stick.

"Look at the sky!" she shouted. "Danbury's burning! All men muster at Ludingtons'!"

At each village or cluster of houses, she repeated the cry. When lights began to shine and people were yelling and moving about, she would spur her horse onward. Before she and Star melted into the night, the village bells would be pealing out the alarm.

Paths were slippery with mud and wet stones, and the terrain was often hilly and wooded. Sybil's ears strained for sounds of other riders who might try to steal her horse or stop her mission. Twice she pulled Star off the path while unknown riders passed within a few feet. Both times, her fright dried her mouth and made her hands tremble.

By the time they reached Stormville, Star had stumbled several times, and Sybil's voice was almost gone. The town's call to arms was sounding as they turned homeward. Covered with mud, tired beyond belief, Sybil could barely stay on Star's back when they rode into their yard. She had ridden more than thirty miles that night.

In a daze, she saw the red sky in the east. It was the dawn. Several hundred men were milling about. She had roused them in time, and Ludington's regiment marched out to join the Connecticut militia in routing the British at Ridgefield, driving them back to their ships on Long Island Sound.

Afterward, General George Washington made a personal visit to Ludingtons' Mills to thank Sybil for her courageous deed. Statesman Alexander Hamilton wrote her a letter of praise.

Two centuries later visitors to the area of Patterson, New York, can still follow Sybil's route. A statue of Sybil on horseback stands at Lake Gleneida in Carmel, New York, and people in that area know well the heroism of Sybil Ludington. In 1978, a commemorative postage stamp was issued in her honor, bringing national attention to the heroic young girl who rode for independence.

From *Cobblestone's* September, 1983, issue "Patriotic Tales of the American Revolution." Copyright 1983, Cobblestone Publishing Inc. Peterborough, NH 03548. Reprinted by permission of the publisher.

HUNGRY SPIDER AND THE TURTLE

by Harold Courlander and George Herzog

Spider was a hungry one, he always wanted to eat. Everybody in Ashanti knew about his appetite. He was greedy, too, and always wanted more than his share of things. So people steered clear of Spider.

But one day, a stranger came to Spider's habitation out in the back country. His name was Turtle. Turtle was a long way from his home. He had been walking all day in the hot sun, and he was tired and hungry. So Spider had to invite Turtle into his house and offer him something to eat. He hated to do it, but if he didn't extend hospitality to a tired traveler it would get back around the countryside and people would soon be talking about Spider behind his back.

So he said to Turtle:

"There is water at the spring for you to wash your feet in. Follow the trail and you'll get there. I'll get the dinner ready."

Turtle turned and waddled down to the spring with a gourd bowl as fast as he could. He dipped some water from the spring and carefully washed his feet in it. Then he waddled back up the trail to the house. But the trail was dusty. By the time Turtle got back to the house his feet were covered with dirt again.

Spider had the food all set out. It was steaming, and the smell of it made Turtle's mouth water. He hadn't eaten since sunrise. Spider looked disapprovingly at Turtle's feet.

"Your feet are awfully dirty," he said. "Don't you think you ought to wash them before you start to eat?"

Turtle looked at his feet. He was ashamed, they were so dirty. So he turned around and waddled as fast as he could down to the spring again. He dipped some water out of the spring with the gourd bowl and carefully washed himself. Then he scurried as fast as he could back to the house. But it takes a turtle a while to get anywhere. When he came into the house Spider was already eating.

"Excellent meal, isn't it?" Spider said. He looked at Turtle's feet with disapproval. "Hm, aren't you going to wash yourself?"

Turtle looked down at his feet. In his hurry to get back he had stirred up a lot of dust, and his feet were covered with it again.

"I washed them," he said. "I washed them twice. It's your dusty trail that does it."

"Oh," Spider said, "so you are abusing my house now!" He took a big mouthful of food and chewed it up, looking very hurt.

"No," Turtle said, sniffing the food. "I was just explaining."

"Well, run along and wash up so we can get on with the eating," Spider said.

Turtle looked. The food was already half gone and Spider was eating as fast as he could.

Turtle spun around and hurried down to the spring. He dipped up some water in the gourd bowl and splashed it over his feet. Then he scrambled back to the house. This time he didn't go on the trail, though, but on the grass and through the bushes. It took him a little longer, but he didn't get dust all over his feet. When he got to the house he found Spider licking his lips.

"Ah, what a fine meal we had!" Spider said.

Turtle looked in the dish. Everything was gone. Even the smell was gone. Turtle was very hungry. But he said nothing. He smiled.

"Yes, it was very good," he said. "You are certainly good to travelers in your village. If you are ever in my country you may be assured of a welcome."

"It's nothing," Spider said. "Nothing at all."

Turtle went away. He didn't tell other people about the affair at Spider's house. He was quiet about his experience there.

But one day many months later Spider was a long distance from home and he found himself in Turtle's country. He found Turtle at the shore of the lake getting a sunbath.

"Ah, friend Spider, you are far from your village," Turtle said. "Will you have something to eat with me?"

"Yes, that is the way it is when a person is far from home — generosity merits generosity," Spider said hungrily.

"Wait here on the shore and I'll go below and prepare the food," Turtle said. He slipped into the water and went down to the bottom of the lake. When he got there he set out the food to eat. Then he came to the top of the water and said to Spider, who was sitting impatiently on the shore, "All right, everything is ready. Let's go down and eat." He put his head under water and swam down.

Spider was famished. He jumped into the water to follow Turtle. But Spider was very light. He floated. He splashed and splashed, kicked and kicked, but he stayed right there on top of the water. For a long time he tried to get down where Turtle was eating, but nothing happened.

After a while Turtle came up, licking his lips.

What's the matter, aren't you hungry?" he said. "The food is very good. Better hurry." And he went down again.

Spider made one more desperate try, but he just floated. Then he had an idea. He went back to the shore, picked up pebbles and put them in his pockets of his jacket. He put so many pebbles in his pockets that he became very heavy. He was so heavy he could hardly walk. Then he jumped into the water again, and this time he sank to the bottom, where Turtle was eating. The food was half gone. Spider was very hungry. He was just reaching for the food when Turtle said politely:

"Excuse me, my friend. In my country we never eat with our jackets on. Take off your jacket so that we can get down to business."

Turtle took a great mouthful of food and started chewing. In a few minutes there wouldn't be anything left. Spider was aching all over with hunger. Turtle took another mouthful. So Spider wriggled out of his coat and grabbed at the food. But without the pebbles he was so light again that he popped right up to the top of the water.

People always say that one good meal deserves another.

Harold Courlander, "Hungry Spider and the Turtle",
from *The Cow-Tail Switch and Other West African Stories*
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APPENDIX C

Setting the Achievement Levels

Setting achievement levels is a test-centered method for setting standards on the NAEP assessment that identifies what students should know and should be able to do. The method depends on securing and summarizing a set of judgmental ratings of expectations for student educational performance on the items comprising the NAEP reading assessment. The NAEP proficiency scale is a numerical index of students' performance in reading ranging from 0 to 500. The three achievement levels — Basic, Proficient, and Advanced — are mapped onto the scale for each grade level assessed.

In developing the threshold values for the levels, a broadly constituted panel of judges — including teachers (55 percent), non-teacher educators (15 percent), and the general public (non-educators)[1] (30 percent) — rated a grade-specific item pool using the Board's policy definitions for Basic, Proficient, and Advanced. The policy definitions were operationalized by the judges in terms of specific reading skills, knowledge, and behaviors that were judged to be appropriate expectations for students in each grade, and were in accordance with the current reading assessment framework. The policy definitions are as follows:

> ***Basic***
>
> This level denotes partial mastery of the prerequisite knowledge and skills that are fundamental for proficient work at each grade.
>
> ***Proficient***
>
> This level represents solid academic performance for each grade assessed. Students reaching this level have demonstrated competency over challenging subject matter including subject-matter knowledge, application of such knowledge to real world situations, and analytical skills appropriate to the subject matter.
>
> ***Advanced***
>
> This higher level signifies superior performance beyond proficient grade-level mastery at grades 4, 8, and 12.

The judges' operationalized definitions were incorporated into lists of descriptors that represented what borderline students should be able to do at each of the policy levels. The purpose of having panelists develop their own operational definitions of the achievement levels was to ensure that all panelists would have a common understanding of borderline performances and a common set of content-based referents to use during the item-rating process.

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[1] Non-educators represented business, labor, government service, parents, and the general public.

For the multiple-choice (MC) and short constructed-response (SCR) items that were scored correct/incorrect, the judges (22 at grade 4) each rated half of the items in the NAEP pool. These items were rated in terms of the expected probability that a student at a borderline achievement level would answer the item correctly, based on the judges' operationalization of the policy definitions and the factors that influence item difficulty. To assist the judges in generating consistently-scaled ratings, the rating process was repeated twice, with feedback. Information on consistency among different judges and on the difficulty of each item[2] was included in the first repetition (round 2), while information on consistency within each judge's set of ratings was included in the second repetition (round 3). The third round of ratings permitted the judges to discuss their ratings among themselves to resolve problematic ratings. The mean final rating of the judges aggregated across MC and SCR items yielded the threshold values for these items in the percent correct metric. These cut scores were then mapped onto the NAEP scale (which is defined and scored using item response theory, rather than percent correct). For extended constructed-response (ECR) items, judges were asked to select student papers that exemplified performance at the cutpoint of each achievement level. Then for each achievement level, the mean of the scores assigned to the selected papers was mapped onto the NAEP scale in a manner similar to that used for the items scored correct/incorrect. The final cut score for each achievement level was a weighted average of the cut score for the MC and SCR items and the cut score for the ECR items, with the weights being proportional to the information supplied by the two classes of items. The judges' ratings, in both metrics, and their associated errors of measurement are shown below.

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1994 Trial State Assessment

TABLE C.1

Cutpoints for Achievement Levels at Grade 4

Level	Mean Percent Correct – MC & SCR (Round 3)	Mean Paper Rating – ECR (Round 3)	Scale Score*	Standard Error of Scale Score**
Basic	38	2.72	208	3.6
Proficient	62	3.14	238	1.4
Advanced	80	3.48	268	6.1

* Scale score is derived from a weighted average of the mean percent correct (for MC and SCR items) and the mean paper rating for the ECR items after both were mapped onto the NAEP scale.

** The standard error of the scale score is estimated from the difference in mean scale scores for the two equivalent subgroups of judges.

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[2] Item difficulty estimates were based on a preliminary, partial set of responses to the national assessment.

Revised Achievement Levels Cut Scores and Student Performance Estimates

The revised achievement levels cut scores and the revised percentage of students at or above each level for both 1992 and 1994 are presented in Chapter 3. These new estimates were required when it was discovered that there was an error in the program used to develop the levels. In deriving the final levels, panelists' ratings for the multiple-choice and constructed-response items were combined to obtain an overall rating for the items. This combination was weighted according to the amount of information provided by each type of item, that is, some items "count more" toward the overall cut scores than others. The weighting was carried out incorrectly, thus resulting in the erroneous estimates in the *NAEP 1992 Reading Report Card*, the NAEP 1992 state reading reports, and the *NAEP 1994 Reading: A First Look* report.

The process for developing the levels in 1992 remains unchanged and is accurately described in this Appendix, except for the step for deriving the final cut scores using a weighted average of the mean percent correct (for MC and SCR items) and the mean paper rating for the ECR items. The data in Chapter 3 have been corrected to reflect the correct weighting procedure, as has Table C.1, which displays the new cut scores.

Achievement Level Exemplar Items

The purpose of providing exemplar exercises is to provide readers with a sample of the kind of skills and knowledge that students reaching the achievement levels are likely to be able to respond to successfully. They are meant also to represent the kind of knowledge and skills embodied in the reading framework.

The selection of exemplar items for the 1994 reading assessment augment the 1992 exemplars by providing three additional passages (one for each grade level) and 13 additional exercises associated with the passages. The choice was made on the basis of criteria similar to those used in 1992,[3] with one additional selection criterion, namely, item format. Since the percent of constructed-response items increased by approximately 10% over the 1992 assessment, the choice of 1994 exemplars reflects this focus.

It should be noted that although some exemplars are associated with performance data from the 1992 and 1994 assessments (overall and conditional p-values), others have only 1992 performance estimates since they were released items in 1992 and not readministered in 1994. However, they are all reflective of the assessment framework.

In Chapter 3, Figure 3.1 provides the final description of the three achievement levels for grade 4. Exemplar items, illustrating what students at each level should know and be able to do, are included in Chapter 3 as well. The descriptions of the levels apply to the framework that underlies the 1992 and 1994 NAEP reading assessments. The exemplar items reflective of the levels have been updated to reflect both the 1992 and 1994 item pools. Table 3.1 in Chapter 3 provides the percentage of students at or above each of the three levels and the percentage of students below the Basic level.

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[3] In 1992, both statistical and content criteria were used by the panelists in selecting the best exemplars from the released item pool. A description of this process can be found in Appendix C of the 1992 state reports and in the *Technical Report of the 1992 NAEP Trial State Assessment Program*.

Reading "Revisit" Study

American College Testing, the NAEP standard-setting contractor, conducted a study to examine the congruence between the reading performance and the descriptions of reading performance embodied in the levels, within the context of the reading assessment framework. The purpose of the study was *not* to set new levels, nor was it to develop new achievement level descriptions. Rather, the "revisit" was designed to evaluate the descriptions of the 1992 achievement levels with respect to their appropriateness vis-a-vis student performance on the NAEP. Two methodologies were used: (1) evaluation of the achievement level descriptions via statistical item mappings; and (2) evaluation of the descriptions via judgmental item mappings.

In the first procedure the NAEP exercises were classified according to the probability of a correct response at selected points on the NAEP scale. One half of the panelists then examined the items falling into each category to judge whether the exercise content corresponded to the descriptions of those levels. In the second procedure, the other half of the panelists were asked to classify each exercise as *Basic*, *Proficient*, or *Advanced* according to whether the item matched the description for the level. Once all the items were classified by all panelists, they were asked to evaluate the extent to which the descriptors represented the skills and knowledge covered by the assessment.

After both an independent and a joint evaluation of the descriptors by panelists in both groups to determine whether the 1992 descriptors were appropriate for reporting performance on the 1994 NAEP reading assessment, the panelists were asked to recommend specific changes in the descriptors. Based on the findings of this study, it was the consensus of the participants that the descriptors used in 1992 were, in general, appropriate and consistent with the NAEP Reading Framework and the 1994 NAEP reading assessment results. However, the panelists recommended minor modifications in the descriptors. Their recommendations are reflected in the 1994 Student Performance Level descriptors.

APPENDIX D

Data Appendix

For each of the tables in Part Three that presents reading proficiency results, this appendix contains corresponding data for each level of the four reporting subpopulations — race/ethnicity, type of location, parents' education level, and gender.

TABLE D5.2

Public School Teachers' Reports on Time Spent Teaching Reading

	45 Minutes or Less		60 Minutes		90 Minutes or More	
	1992	1994	1992	1994	1992	1994
	Percentage and Proficiency					
TOTAL						
State	17 (2.5) 221 (3.3)	19 (3.2) 225 (2.8)	64 (3.3) 226 (1.0)	63 (3.8) 226 (1.4)	18 (2.9) 218 (2.7)	18 (2.9) 218 (2.5)
Nation	29 (3.2) 216 (2.2)	37 (2.5) 215 (2.1)	52 (3.4) 217 (1.8)	44 (2.7) 217 (1.8)	19 (1.8) 213 (2.5)	19 (1.9) 200 (4.0)
RACE/ ETHNICITY						
White						
State	16 (2.6) 228 (3.1)	20 (3.4) 229 (2.7)	66 (3.4) 229 (1.1)	63 (4.1) 229 (1.3)	17 (3.0) 222 (2.7)	17 (3.0) 223 (2.4)
Nation	29 (3.6) 222 (2.6)	39 (3.0) 223 (2.6)	55 (3.7) 223 (1.9)	49 (3.2) 223 (1.9)	16 (1.9) 224 (2.8)	12 (2.1) 221 (3.3)
Black						
State	26 (7.3) *** (**.*)	26 (5.7) *** (**.*)	51 (8.5) 207 (4.2)!	53 (6.2) *** (**.*)	22 (5.1) *** (**.*)	21 (4.9) *** (**.*)
Nation	30 (4.0) 195 (3.2)	34 (3.4) 191 (3.1)	41 (4.2) 194 (2.7)	26 (4.6) 191 (2.6)	29 (4.3) 193 (3.2)	40 (4.6) 180 (2.9)
Hispanic						
State	20 (5.8) *** (**.*)	14 (5.4) *** (**.*)	61 (6.3) 216 (3.6)	66 (6.5) 204 (5.6)	19 (4.7) *** (**.*)	20 (5.0) *** (**.*)
Nation	28 (4.0) 202 (5.6)	30 (4.2) 191 (4.5)	49 (5.3) 202 (2.9)	42 (4.8) 193 (2.7)	24 (4.0) 199 (3.5)	28 (2.6) 184 (4.8)
TYPE OF LOCATION						
Central City						
State	21 (5.3) 219 (7.5)!	26 (6.1) 225 (4.8)!	57 (5.3) 225 (3.0)	56 (6.1) 221 (3.2)	22 (5.1) 216 (4.0)!	18 (4.2) 214 (5.0)!
Nation	19 (3.0) 208 (5.5)	29 (3.7) 211 (4.6)	50 (4.8) 209 (2.6)	44 (4.0) 208 (2.3)	31 (3.6) 206 (3.3)	27 (3.2) 191 (6.4)
Urb Frng/Lrg Town						
State	13 (2.7) *** (**.*)	17 (3.5) 232 (3.8)!	69 (4.7) 227 (1.8)	63 (6.9) 226 (2.3)	18 (4.6) 215 (4.3)!	20 (7.0) 219 (3.7)!
Nation	31 (5.6) 220 (3.2)!	40 (3.8) 219 (3.2)	50 (5.1) 221 (3.3)	42 (4.9) 224 (2.3)	18 (3.2) 223 (3.9)	17 (3.6) 212 (4.4)!
Rural/Small Town						
State	17 (4.2) 220 (4.3)!	15 (6.0) 217 (4.4)!	68 (6.4) 226 (1.6)	70 (7.2) 229 (1.9)	15 (5.1) 222 (4.4)!	15 (4.0) 223 (4.3)!
Nation	34 (5.4) 216 (4.1)	43 (6.0) 212 (3.8)	57 (5.5) 220 (2.8)	48 (6.2) 218 (2.8)	9 (3.1) 213 (9.3)!	9 (3.7) 197 (7.1)!

(continued on next page)

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TABLE D5.2 (continued)

Public School Teachers' Reports on Time Spent Teaching Reading

	45 Minutes or Less		60 Minutes		90 Minutes or More	
	1992	1994	1992	1994	1992	1994
	Percentage and Proficiency					
PARENTS' EDUCATION						
College graduate						
State	17 (3.3) 232 (4.3)'	20 (3.6) 234 (4.0)	65 (3.7) 233 (1.8)	63 (4.2) 234 (2.1)	18 (3.0) 224 (4.0)	17 (3.1) 230 (3.4)
Nation	29 (3.0) 222 (3.3)	37 (2.7) 226 (2.1)	52 (3.5) 226 (2.6)	44 (2.8) 226 (2.4)	19 (2.1) 223 (3.3)	19 (2.7) 211 (5.2)
Some ed after HS						
State	15 (3.0) *** (**.*)	18 (4.4) *** (**.*)	67 (4.7) 233 (2.1)	64 (5.4) 227 (3.2)	18 (4.5) *** (**.*)	18 (3.6) *** (**.*)
Nation	27 (4.6) 220 (6.7)	45 (4.4) 225 (3.7)	54 (5.2) 222 (3.1)	42 (4.1) 223 (3.2)	19 (2.8) 222 (5.4)	13 (2.0) *** (**.*)
HS graduate						
State	18 (2.9) 216 (5.4)	18 (4.6) *** (**.*)	63 (4.6) 221 (2.0)	65 (5.5) 226 (3.0)	19 (3.8) 219 (3.9)	17 (4.2) *** (**.*)
Nation	30 (4.5) 213 (4.2)	36 (3.4) 208 (3.4)	53 (5.6) 215 (3.6)	44 (3.8) 213 (3.0)	18 (2.6) 202 (4.8)	20 (2.3) 190 (5.0)
HS non-graduate						
State	22 (6.1) *** (**.*)	21 (5.5) *** (**.*)	58 (6.9) *** (**.*)	56 (6.1) *** (**.*)	19 (5.5) *** (**.*)	23 (5.8) *** (**.*)
Nation	29 (5.9) *** (**.*)	42 (4.8) 182 (6.3)	42 (5.8) 200 (5.4)	43 (4.4) 197 (5.4)	29 (4.6) 198 (4.2)	14 (3.0) *** (**.*)
I don't know						
State	18 (2.7) 211 (3.8)	19 (3.5) 217 (3.6)	65 (3.3) 221 (1.5)	62 (4.1) 218 (2.0)	17 (3.1) 210 (3.7)	19 (3.0) 210 (3.9)
Nation	28 (3.7) 212 (2.3)	35 (2.5) 205 (2.9)	53 (3.8) 210 (2.0)	45 (2.9) 211 (2.1)	18 (2.2) 206 (3.1)	20 (2.0) 193 (3.3)
GENDER						
Male						
State	17 (2.6) 217 (4.2)	20 (3.4) 219 (3.4)	64 (3.5) 223 (1.6)	62 (4.0) 223 (1.7)	19 (2.9) 216 (2.7)	18 (2.9) 217 (2.4)
Nation	28 (3.2) 211 (2.5)	36 (2.5) 209 (2.6)	53 (3.5) 214 (2.0)	45 (2.6) 213 (2.0)	19 (2.0) 211 (3.2)	19 (2.1) 194 (4.0)
Female						
State	18 (2.6) 224 (3.3)	19 (3.2) 230 (3.7)	65 (3.2) 229 (1.2)	63 (3.9) 228 (1.7)	18 (3.1) 220 (3.7)	18 (3.1) 220 (3.4)
Nation	29 (3.3) 221 (2.6)	38 (2.8) 221 (2.0)	52 (3.6) 221 (2.1)	43 (2.9) 223 (2.1)	19 (2.0) 216 (2.7)	19 (1.9) 207 (4.5)

The question associated with this variable was reformatted in 1994. No trend comparison tests were conducted.

‡ The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500. The standard errors of the statistics appear in parentheses. It can be said with about 95 percent confidence that, for each population of interest, the value for the entire population is within ± 2 standard errors of the estimate for the sample. In comparing two estimates, one must use the standard error of the difference (see Appendix A for details). ' Interpret with caution — the nature of the sample does not allow accurate determination of the variability of this statistic. *** Sample size is insufficient to permit a reliable estimate.

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TABLE D5.3

Public School Teachers' Reports on the Availability of Resources

	I get all the resources I need		I get most of the resources I need		I get some or none of the resources I need	
	1992	1994	1992	1994	1992	1994
	Percentage and Proficiency					
TOTAL						
State	12 (2.2) 222 (2.7)	12 (2.3) 225 (2.4)	60 (2.9) 224 (1.2)	61 (3.6) 224 (1.6)	28 (3.3) 222 (2.2)	27 (3.6) 224 (2.0)
Nation	11 (1.7) 220 (3.1)	9 (1.7) 225 (3.7)	51 (2.9) 218 (1.7)	55 (2.7) 215 (1.6)	39 (3.5) 213 (1.6)	35 (2.7) 208 (1.8)
RACE/ ETHNICITY						
White						
State	12 (2.4) 227 (2.7)	13 (2.5) 228 (2.1)!	60 (3.0) 227 (1.3)	60 (3.8) 228 (1.5)	27 (3.6) 227 (2.0)	27 (3.6) 228 (2.0)
Nation	11 (2.0) 229 (2.8)	10 (2.0) 233 (2.7)	53 (3.4) 224 (1.9)	58 (3.2) 223 (1.8)	36 (4.2) 221 (1.8)	32 (3.2) 220 (2.0)
Black						
State	8 (3.8) *** (**.*)	13 (7.7) *** (**.*)	59 (8.9) 204 (4.1)!	52 (7.6) *** (**.*)	33 (8.6) *** (**.*)	35 (12.8) *** (**.*)
Nation	10 (1.9) 194 (4.9)	7 (1.9) 197 (10.4)!	40 (4.0) 192 (2.6)	46 (5.0) 186 (2.2)	49 (4.0) 196 (2.2)	47 (4.7) 186 (2.3) <
Hispanic						
State	16 (4.0) *** (**.*)	9 (3.1) *** (**.*)	53 (5.9) 214 (3.5)	66 (5.8) 200 (5.4)	31 (4.5) 205 (6.3)	25 (5.7) *** (**.*)
Nation	10 (1.9) 200 (6.2)	8 (2.0) *** (**.*)	50 (4.2) 203 (3.0)	50 (3.6) 192 (2.6) <	41 (4.2) 198 (2.7)	41 (4.1) 186 (3.3)
TYPE OF LOCATION						
Central City						
State	13 (4.2) 218 (5.2)!	11 (3.7) *** (**.*)	59 (5.3) 224 (3.3)	62 (5.5) 219 (3.1)	28 (6.1) 219 (5.2)!	27 (6.1) 222 (4.1)!
Nation	8 (2.1) 214 (10.3)!	10 (2.9) 221 (5.5)!	47 (4.0) 210 (3.0)	46 (3.9) 207 (3.7)	46 (3.7) 207 (1.9)	44 (3.6) 198 (2.8)
Urb Frng/Lrg Town						
State	12 (4.4) *** (**.*)	11 (4.5) *** (**.*)	49 (5.7) 226 (1.8)	58 (7.8) 225 (3.1)	38 (6.0) 222 (2.7)!	31 (7.3) 229 (2.0)!
Nation	11 (2.0) 219 (5.1)	10 (2.1) 229 (6.1)!	58 (3.6) 222 (2.4)	57 (4.2) 221 (2.1)	32 (4.0) 218 (3.9)	33 (4.5) 216 (2.9)
Rural/Small Town						
State	11 (3.0) 222 (4.5)!	14 (4.7) 225 (3.0)!	68 (4.3) 223 (2.1)	61 (5.6) 228 (1.8)	21 (5.2) 226 (2.9)!	25 (5.9) 222 (3.4)!
Nation	14 (5.1) 225 (3.0)!	7 (3.5) 223 (5.0)!	45 (7.3) 219 (4.3)!	65 (4.9) 212 (2.5)	41 (9.7) 216 (3.3)!	28 (4.2) 214 (4.2)

(continued on next page)

TABLE D5.3 (continued)

Public School Teachers' Reports on the Availability of Resources

	I get all the resources I need		I get most of the resources I need		I get some or none of the resources I need	
	1992	1994	1992	1994	1992	1994
	Percentage and Proficiency					
PARENTS' EDUCATION						
College graduate						
State	10 (2.1)	11 (2.2)	64 (3.4)	60 (4.2)	27 (3.7)	29 (4.0)
	231 (4.4)!	233 (4.9)	232 (1.8)	234 (1.7)	229 (3.4)	231 (3.2)
Nation	11 (2.0)	10 (1.9)	51 (3.3)	54 (3.1)	37 (4.0)	36 (3.2)
	226 (4.8)	233 (4.9)	225 (2.4)	225 (1.8)	222 (2.3)	217 (2.4)
Some ed after HS						
State	11 (2.9)	13 (3.4)	59 (4.5)	58 (4.8)	30 (4.5)	28 (5.4)
	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	235 (2.6)	226 (3.5)	227 (4.1)	*** (**.*)
Nation	10 (2.5)	11 (3.0)	54 (4.2)	53 (4.5)	36 (5.2)	36 (4.0)
	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	221 (2.4)	225 (3.2)	223 (5.3)	215 (3.9)
HS graduate						
State	16 (3.3)	13 (3.8)	62 (3.9)	62 (5.0)	22 (3.5)	25 (4.2)
	225 (3.4)	*** (**.*)	218 (1.9)	222 (2.9)	220 (4.4)	223 (4.6)
Nation	11 (2.6)	9 (1.7)	49 (4.6)	55 (3.0)	39 (4.9)	36 (3.0)
	*** (**.*)	214 (8.4)	216 (3.6)	210 (2.6)	208 (2.2)	203 (3.5)
HS non-graduate						
State	22 (7.1)	14 (5.3)	41 (7.2)	63 (6.1)	37 (8.1)	24 (5.2)
	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)
Nation	8 (2.4)	3 (1.5)	39 (4.6)	60 (4.1) >	52 (4.9)	37 (3.8)
	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	196 (5.3)	192 (4.5)	198 (4.9)	182 (6.0)
I don't know						
State	12 (2.4)	13 (2.7)	56 (3.0)	61 (3.8)	32 (3.6)	26 (3.9)
	214 (3.5)!	217 (3.0)!	217 (2.0)	216 (2.4)	217 (2.6)	217 (2.4)
Nation	10 (1.7)	9 (1.6)	51 (2.9)	57 (2.8)	38 (3.2)	34 (2.6)
	216 (4.0)	218 (4.2)	212 (2.1)	206 (2.3)	206 (1.8)	202 (2.0)
GENDER						
Male						
State	11 (2.2)	13 (2.5)	61 (2.9)	59 (3.7)	27 (3.4)	28 (3.7)
	219 (3.4)	222 (3.1)	221 (1.7)	221 (1.8)	220 (2.4)	220 (2.3)
Nation	10 (1.8)	9 (1.6)	51 (3.0)	57 (2.8)	38 (3.7)	34 (2.7)
	216 (3.5)	222 (3.5)	214 (2.0)	209 (1.9)	210 (2.3)	202 (2.1) <
Female						
State	13 (2.4)	11 (2.4)	58 (3.2)	62 (3.8)	29 (3.5)	27 (3.7)
	225 (3.0)	229 (2.6)!	228 (1.3)	226 (2.2)	224 (2.7)	229 (2.6)
Nation	11 (1.8)	10 (1.9)	50 (2.9)	54 (2.8)	39 (3.4)	37 (2.8)
	224 (3.5)	228 (4.6)	222 (1.8)	221 (1.8)	217 (1.6)	214 (2.0)

The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500. The standard errors of the statistics appear in parentheses. It can be said with about 95 percent confidence that, for each population of interest, the value for the entire population is within ± 2 standard errors of the estimate for the sample. In comparing two estimates, one must use the standard error of the difference (see Appendix A for details). If the notation > (<) appears, it signifies that the value for public school students in 1994 was significantly higher (lower) than the value for 1992 at about the 95 percent confidence level. ! Interpret with caution — the nature of the sample does not allow accurate determination of the variability of this statistic. *** Sample size is insufficient to permit a reliable estimate.

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TABLE D6.1

Public School Teachers' Reports on Instructional Materials for Reading

	Primarily Basal		Primarily Trade Books		Both Basal and Trade Books		Other	
	1992	1994	1992	1994	1992	1994	1992	1994
	Percentage and Proficiency							
TOTAL								
State	25 (3.9)	17 (3.2)	13 (2.5)	25 (3.9)	61 (4.2)	56 (4.0)	1 (0.4)	1 (0.3)
	224 (2.3)	217 (3.3)	227 (3.0)!	226 (2.0)	223 (1.2)	226 (1.6)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)
Nation	33 (2.6)	18 (2.4)	13 (2.3)	20 (2.8)	51 (3.6)	59 (3.0)	3 (1.1)	3 (0.7)
	213 (2.2)	208 (2.4)	222 (4.4)	218 (2.9)	217 (1.4)	214 (1.7)	208 (6.3)!	197 (6.1)!
RACE/ ETHNICITY								
White								
State	24 (4.1)	16 (3.3)	13 (2.7)	26 (4.2)	62 (4.4)	58 (4.3)	1 (0.5)	1 (0.3)
	228 (2.1)	223 (2.0)!	230 (2.9)!	229 (2.1)	227 (1.3)	229 (1.6)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)
Nation	31 (3.1)	16 (2.5)	14 (2.7)	22 (3.4)	52 (4.1)	59 (3.8)	3 (1.1)	2 (0.7)
	220 (2.6)	220 (2.5)	229 (4.0)	222 (3.3)	224 (1.7)	224 (1.6)	215 (6.5)!	212 (8.2)!
Black								
State	37 (8.2)	16 (4.7)	10 (4.9)	24 (5.5)	53 (6.0)	56 (7.9)	0 (0.0)	4 (3.0)
	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	196 (3.4)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)
Nation	42 (3.8)	31 (4.8)	8 (2.6)	9 (2.0)	48 (4.2)	57 (4.7)	3 (1.6)	3 (1.2)
	197 (2.5)	186 (2.7)	*** (**.*)	199 (4.8)!	193 (2.4)	186 (2.4)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)
Hispanic								
State	30 (6.1)	31 (8.2)	10 (3.3)	21 (6.5)	60 (5.4)	46 (7.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (0.8)
	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	209 (4.1)	209 (5.0)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)
Nation	32 (3.8)	16 (2.6)	14 (2.3)	18 (3.5)	49 (3.9)	61 (3.5)	5 (2.7)	5 (1.2)
	200 (4.4)	193 (5.2)	204 (7.6)	195 (4.9)!	204 (3.0)	190 (3.3)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)
TYPE OF LOCATION								
Central City								
State	24 (5.4)	19 (5.6)	18 (4.8)	28 (6.6)	57 (5.6)	51 (7.4)	0 (0.0)	2 (0.6)
	220 (5.0)!	*** (**.*)	225 (4.1)!	228 (3.0)!	221 (3.3)	222 (3.4)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)
Nation	39 (4.9)	21 (4.3)	14 (3.1)	19 (4.8)	43 (5.1)	57 (5.3)	3 (0.9)	3 (0.9)
	204 (2.7)	198 (4.1)!	215 (6.6)!	215 (4.5)!	209 (3.5)	204 (3.5)	*** (**.*)	195 (14.0)!
Urb Frng/Lrg Town								
State	20 (6.4)	17 (5.9)	11 (5.5)	27 (7.0)	68 (7.0)	54 (7.4)	1 (0.5)	1 (0.9)
	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	227 (2.9)!	225 (2.0)	227 (3.1)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)
Nation	23 (4.1)	14 (3.1)	15 (3.6)	22 (3.6)	60 (4.3)	61 (4.0)	2 (1.4)	3 (1.1)
	218 (4.6)!	219 (3.4)!	225 (8.8)!	224 (2.8)	221 (2.1)	220 (2.5)	*** (**.*)	201 (4.8)!
Rural/Small Town								
State	30 (7.3)	15 (5.2)	9 (3.0)	21 (7.1)	60 (7.1)	63 (6.4)	1 (1.0)	0 (0.2)
	228 (3.1)!	223 (3.3)!	*** (**.*)	222 (3.7)!	223 (2.0)	228 (2.1)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)
Nation	39 (6.2)	21 (5.1)	11 (5.3)	17 (6.6)	45 (8.6)	59 (5.4)	5 (2.9)	3 (1.8)
	218 (2.6)	209 (5.3)!	227 (5.6)!	209 (8.8)!	218 (3.5)!	217 (2.4)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)

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TABLE D6.1 (continued)

Public School Teachers' Reports on Instructional Materials for Reading

	Primarily Basal		Primarily Trade Books		Both Basal and Trade Books		Other	
	1992	1994	1992	1994	1992	1994	1992	1994
	Percentage and Proficiency							
PARENTS' EDUCATION								
College graduate								
State	26 (4.4) 232 (2.4)	12 (2.6) 223 (4.1)!	15 (3.1) 229 (4.1)!	33 (4.8) 234 (2.2)	59 (4.6) 232 (1.9)	54 (4.6) 235 (2.6)	1 (0.4) *** (**.*)	1 (0.4) *** (**.*)
Nation	32 (3.2) 220 (3.2)	17 (2.4) 212 (3.0)	15 (2.9) 233 (5.7)!	22 (2.9) 229 (2.5)	50 (3.7) 225 (1.8)	59 (3.5) 224 (2.0)	3 (0.9) *** (**.*)	3 (0.8) 211 (9.1)!
Some ed after HS								
State	24 (5.3) *** (**.*)	19 (4.3) *** (**.*)	11 (2.6) *** (**.*)	19 (4.3) *** (**.*)	63 (5.8) 232 (2.7)	62 (5.0) 230 (2.9)	1 (1.0) *** (**.*)	0 (0.0) *** (**.*)
Nation	29 (3.8) 222 (4.9)	17 (3.3) 221 (4.4)	16 (4.2) *** (**.*)	21 (3.7) 218 (5.4)	53 (5.5) 221 (3.5)	59 (4.8) 222 (3.0)	2 (1.0) *** (**.*)	3 (1.4) *** (**.*)
HS graduate								
State	26 (4.7) 222 (3.3)	21 (4.8) 227 (5.2)!	11 (2.7) *** (**.*)	21 (4.6) 220 (5.1)!	63 (5.0) 218 (1.8)	57 (4.8) 223 (2.7)	0 (0.0) *** (**.*)	1 (0.3) *** (**.*)
Nation	35 (3.8) 213 (3.8)	20 (3.2) 209 (4.9)	9 (2.3) *** (**.*)	14 (3.3) 209 (4.7)!	52 (4.8) 213 (2.9)	63 (3.6) 208 (2.6)	3 (1.4) *** (**.*)	3 (1.1) *** (**.*)
HS non-graduate								
State	30 (7.2) *** (**.*)	17 (5.8) *** (**.*)	7 (4.7) *** (**.*)	18 (6.1) *** (**.*)	63 (8.2) *** (**.*)	62 (6.8) *** (**.*)	0 (0.0) *** (**.*)	3 (2.0) *** (**.*)
Nation	34 (4.1) *** (**.*)	22 (5.1) *** (**.*)	10 (3.0) *** (**.*)	18 (4.4) *** (**.*)	52 (4.7) 200 (5.2)	56 (4.4) 190 (5.3)	5 (1.9) *** (**.*)	3 (1.4) *** (**.*)
I don't know								
State	24 (3.8) 217 (3.4)	20 (3.7) 211 (4.3)	12 (2.6) 222 (4.1)!	22 (3.8) 219 (3.1)	63 (4.2) 216 (1.9)	57 (4.3) 219 (2.2)	1 (0.6) *** (**.*)	1 (0.4) *** (**.*)
Nation	34 (2.8) 207 (2.4)	19 (2.6) 203 (3.6)	13 (2.2) 215 (5.2)	19 (3.1) 210 (3.6)	50 (3.7) 212 (1.8)	58 (3.0) 206 (1.9)	4 (1.6) *** (**.*)	3 (0.7) 181 (6.3)!
GENDER								
Male								
State	24 (3.7) 222 (2.3)	18 (3.4) 216 (2.5)	13 (2.6) 226 (2.9)!	26 (3.8) 223 (2.6)	62 (4.1) 220 (1.5)	56 (4.1) 222 (1.7)	0 (0.3) *** (**.*)	1 (0.3) *** (**.*)
Nation	32 (2.8) 209 (2.7)	18 (2.5) 202 (2.3)	14 (2.6) 218 (5.5)	20 (2.7) 213 (3.7)	51 (3.9) 214 (1.7)	58 (2.8) 209 (1.8)	3 (1.1) *** (**.*)	3 (0.8) 187 (8.3)!
Female								
State	26 (4.3) 227 (2.8)	17 (3.2) 218 (4.9)	12 (2.4) 227 (3.9)!	25 (4.1) 229 (2.2)	61 (4.4) 226 (1.3)	57 (4.2) 229 (2.1)	1 (0.6) *** (**.*)	1 (0.4) *** (**.*)
Nation	34 (2.7) 217 (2.3)	18 (2.5) 214 (2.9)	13 (2.1) 228 (3.9)	19 (3.0) 223 (3.0)	50 (3.3) 221 (1.7)	60 (3.3) 220 (1.8)	3 (1.1) *** (**.*)	3 (0.7) 208 (6.3)!

The question associated with this variable was reformatted in 1994. No trend comparison tests were conducted.

The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500. The standard errors of the statistics appear in parentheses. It can be said with about 95 percent confidence that, for each population of interest, the value for the entire population is within ± 2 standard errors of the estimate for the sample. In comparing two estimates, one must use the standard error of the difference (see Appendix A for details). ! Interpret with caution — the nature of the sample does not allow accurate determination of the variability of this statistic. *** Sample size is insufficient to permit a reliable estimate.

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TABLE D6.2A

Public School Teachers' Reports on the Frequency of Using Children's Newspapers and/or Magazines

	At Least Once a Week		Once or Twice a Month		Never or Hardly Ever	
	1992	1994	1992	1994	1992	1994
	Percentage and Proficiency					
TOTAL						
State	36 (3.7) 223 (1.6)	37 (4.0) 224 (2.0)	27 (3.3) 221 (2.2)	32 (3.4) 222 (1.8)	37 (4.2) 226 (1.5)	31 (3.7) 227 (2.1)
Nation	32 (3.2) 218 (2.2)	30 (3.0) 213 (2.3)	32 (2.4) 213 (2.0)	36 (2.2) 212 (1.7)	36 (2.6) 218 (2.1)	35 (2.8) 214 (2.2)
RACE/ ETHNICITY						
White						
State	37 (3.9) 226 (1.7)	37 (4.2) 228 (1.8)	26 (3.5) 226 (2.3)	32 (3.7) 226 (1.7)	38 (4.4) 230 (1.6)	31 (3.9) 230 (2.2)
Nation	33 (3.9) 225 (2.3)	30 (3.5) 223 (2.7)	29 (2.7) 221 (2.2)	35 (2.7) 223 (1.8)	38 (2.9) 224 (2.2)	35 (3.2) 222 (2.1)
Black						
State	33 (6.4) *** (**.*)	35 (8.4) *** (**.*)	28 (7.6) *** (**.*)	32 (5.2) *** (**.*)	39 (10.1) *** (**.*)	32 (6.8) *** (**.*)
Nation	30 (3.5) 194 (3.3)	31 (4.0) 184 (3.3)	43 (4.2) 195 (2.5)	35 (4.6) 185 (3.2)	28 (4.1) 192 (3.9)	34 (4.6) 190 (2.6)
Hispanic						
State	34 (4.6) 209 (4.5)	42 (6.1) 200 (7.0)	34 (5.1) 202 (6.5)!	31 (7.3) *** (**.*)	32 (4.6) *** (**.*)	27 (5.6) *** (**.*)
Nation	31 (2.9) 202 (4.0)	26 (3.6) 190 (4.5)	34 (3.1) 197 (4.5)	41 (4.3) 188 (2.8)	36 (3.4) 205 (3.5)	33 (3.9) 193 (3.7)
TYPE OF LOCATION						
Central City						
State	39 (6.4) 220 (2.4)	38 (5.6) 220 (4.0)	28 (5.6) 220 (5.0)!	34 (4.6) 215 (3.4)	33 (6.9) 226 (4.6)!	28 (6.0) 229 (4.0)!
Nation	30 (2.9) 211 (2.5)	22 (3.5) 201 (5.4)	42 (2.9) 207 (2.4)	40 (3.2) 203 (2.7)	29 (3.7) 206 (5.2)	38 (4.2) 207 (3.6)
Urb Frng/Lrg Town						
State	36 (7.4) 225 (2.9)!	32 (8.0) 226 (2.8)!	34 (5.8) 223 (3.2)!	31 (5.5) 226 (2.8)!	30 (6.1) 227 (2.1)!	37 (6.6) 225 (3.8)!
Nation	25 (4.0) 218 (4.9)!	37 (4.3) 217 (2.4)	29 (2.7) 219 (2.6)	34 (3.8) 220 (2.4)	46 (4.1) 223 (3.3)	29 (3.7) 224 (3.1)
Rural/Small Town						
State	34 (5.2) 225 (2.7)	40 (7.6) 225 (2.6)!	20 (4.4) 221 (3.7)!	32 (6.7) 226 (3.0)!	46 (6.1) 226 (2.5)	27 (5.9) 228 (3.3)!
Nation	43 (8.8) 222 (3.3)!	27 (6.4) 219 (6.5)!	27 (6.5) 214 (5.2)!	34 (4.0) 214 (4.4)	30 (4.8) 217 (2.3)	39 (6.0) 210 (3.2)

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TABLE D6.2A (continued)

Public School Teachers' Reports on the Frequency of Using Children's Newspapers and/or Magazines

	At Least Once a Week		Once or Twice a Month		Never or Hardly Ever	
	1992	1994	1992	1994	1992	1994
	Percentage and Proficiency					
PARENTS' EDUCATION						
College graduate						
State	35 (3.6) 228 (2.7)	35 (4.2) 233 (2.2)	26 (3.4) 231 (2.4)	31 (4.0) 228 (2.8)	40 (4.6) 234 (2.3)	34 (4.1) 238 (2.5)
Nation	33 (3.8) 224 (2.6)	30 (2.9) 223 (2.9)	30 (2.7) 219 (2.6)	35 (2.4) 222 (2.4)	38 (3.3) 228 (3.2)	35 (3.2) 223 (2.7)
Some ed after HS						
State	37 (4.6) 233 (4.0)	37 (6.7) 226 (4.0)!	28 (4.8) 232 (4.0)	32 (4.7) *** (**.*)	35 (5.2) 230 (2.7)	30 (5.4) *** (**.*)
Nation	34 (5.0) 228 (5.5)	35 (4.0) 218 (3.5)	29 (3.5) 215 (3.9)	34 (3.1) 218 (4.0)	37 (4.5) 222 (3.7)	32 (3.2) 229 (3.6)
HS graduate						
State	33 (4.8) 221 (2.6)	40 (5.6) 222 (3.9)	29 (3.9) 215 (3.2)	33 (5.1) 224 (3.5)	37 (5.4) 223 (2.6)	27 (4.5) 224 (3.6)
Nation	35 (4.7) 214 (4.1)	30 (4.7) 208 (4.0)	31 (3.2) 212 (4.4)	34 (3.3) 204 (3.5)	35 (4.0) 211 (3.2)	36 (3.5) 210 (3.4)
HS non-graduate						
State	29 (7.0) *** (**.*)	37 (6.2) *** (**.*)	29 (7.3) *** (**.*)	29 (5.4) *** (**.*)	42 (8.4) *** (**.*)	34 (5.7) *** (**.*)
Nation	37 (4.8) 199 (5.6)	27 (4.7) 182 (5.8)	33 (5.5) 198 (4.9)!	30 (3.4) 192 (6.3)	30 (5.2) *** (**.*)	44 (5.0) 190 (7.7)
I don't know						
State	39 (4.4) 218 (2.1)	38 (4.1) 217 (3.0)	26 (3.5) 213 (2.9)	33 (3.6) 217 (2.3)	35 (4.1) 220 (2.8)	29 (4.0) 216 (2.5)
Nation	29 (3.0) 212 (2.6)	28 (3.2) 206 (2.8)	35 (2.8) 209 (2.6)	40 (2.5) 205 (2.1)	36 (2.7) 210 (2.2)	32 (2.8) 205 (2.8)
GENDER						
Male						
State	36 (3.8) 220 (1.8)	37 (3.9) 222 (2.2)	26 (3.3) 219 (2.8)	33 (3.4) 218 (2.1)	38 (4.2) 224 (1.7)	30 (3.7) 224 (2.7)
Nation	31 (3.5) 215 (3.0)	30 (2.8) 208 (2.8)	31 (2.5) 210 (2.5)	36 (2.3) 206 (2.1)	37 (2.9) 213 (2.6)	34 (2.7) 209 (2.3)
Female						
State	36 (3.7) 226 (2.0)	37 (4.2) 225 (2.8)	27 (3.5) 224 (2.4)	31 (3.7) 226 (2.3)	37 (4.3) 229 (1.9)	31 (3.9) 231 (2.3)
Nation	32 (3.0) 221 (2.2)	29 (3.2) 219 (2.5)	33 (2.6) 216 (2.1)	36 (2.3) 218 (1.7)	35 (2.6) 223 (2.2)	35 (3.0) 219 (2.5)

The question associated with this variable was reformatted in 1994. No trend comparison tests were conducted.

The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500. The standard errors of the statistics appear in parentheses. It can be said with about 95 percent confidence that, for each population of interest, the value for the entire population is within ± 2 standard errors of the estimate for the sample. In comparing two estimates, one must use the standard error of the difference (see Appendix A for details). ! Interpret with caution — the nature of the sample does not allow accurate determination of the variability of this statistic. *** Sample size is insufficient to permit a reliable estimate.

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TABLE D6.2B

Public School Teachers' Reports on the Frequency of Using Reading Kits

	At Least Once a Week		Once or Twice a Month		Never or Hardly Ever	
	1992	1994	1992	1994	1992	1994
	Percentage and Proficiency					
TOTAL						
State	18 (2.6) 218 (3.0)	12 (2.6) 221 (4.6)!	22 (3.4) 226 (2.4)	18 (2.7) 219 (2.4)	60 (3.9) 225 (1.2)	69 (3.4) 226 (1.3)
Nation	22 (2.6) 210 (2.5)	21 (2.5) 206 (2.8)	20 (2.4) 218 (2.2)	21 (2.0) 214 (1.9)	58 (3.2) 218 (2.2)	58 (3.0) 216 (1.5)
RACE/ ETHNICITY						
White						
State	15 (2.5) 225 (2.7)	12 (2.8) 227 (3.6)!	22 (3.6) 231 (1.9)	18 (2.8) 224 (2.4)	63 (4.0) 227 (1.4)	71 (3.6) 229 (1.4)
Nation	19 (3.0) 221 (2.7)	18 (2.8) 220 (3.1)	20 (3.0) 224 (2.2)	20 (2.1) 225 (1.9)	61 (3.9) 224 (2.3)	62 (3.4) 223 (1.9)
Black						
State	38 (8.0) *** (**.*)	11 (5.9) *** (**.*)	29 (8.0) *** (**.*)	27 (7.9) *** (**.*)	33 (8.1) *** (**.*)	62 (9.1) *** (**.*)
Nation	36 (4.4) 192 (3.2)	34 (4.6) 182 (2.7)	18 (3.1) 197 (3.8)	23 (3.5) 191 (3.4)	46 (4.8) 195 (3.3)	43 (4.1) 187 (2.5)
Hispanic						
State	29 (6.4) *** (**.*)	20 (6.8) *** (**.*)	25 (5.2) *** (**.*)	18 (5.2) *** (**.*)	46 (6.0) 213 (4.1)	62 (7.4) 208 (3.8)
Nation	28 (6.1) 196 (3.7)!	23 (3.4) 186 (4.1)	18 (3.1) 205 (6.6)	24 (4.3) 191 (3.3)	54 (4.5) 204 (3.4)	53 (4.5) 192 (3.0)
TYPE OF LOCATION						
Central City						
State	31 (5.3) 215 (4.8)	13 (2.9) 209 (8.1)!	28 (6.0) 223 (5.0)!	18 (4.4) 210 (4.7)!	41 (6.6) 226 (2.9)!	69 (5.5) 226 (2.4)
Nation	32 (3.8) 203 (3.2)	19 (3.2) 188 (4.9)	17 (4.1) 206 (3.5)!	22 (4.5) 203 (4.0)!	51 (5.2) 211 (3.7)	59 (5.0) 210 (2.8)
Urb Frng/Lrg Town						
State	11 (3.5) 218 (5.3)!	1 (0.8) *** (**.*)	12 (4.2) *** (**.*)	24 (4.8) 225 (3.6)!	77 (5.8) 226 (2.0)	75 (5.0) 226 (1.8)
Nation	19 (3.2) 216 (4.4)	24 (4.5) 214 (3.2)	23 (4.1) 223 (3.5)!	22 (2.8) 223 (2.6)	58 (4.7) 222 (3.3)	54 (5.0) 222 (2.3)
Rural/Small Town						
State	12 (4.1) 224 (4.7)!	20 (6.2) 229 (4.4)!	25 (6.3) 229 (2.3)!	15 (4.2) 223 (4.0)!	63 (7.4) 223 (2.5)	65 (6.6) 226 (2.2)
Nation	17 (5.8) 215 (5.4)!	20 (5.2) 211 (5.6)!	17 (4.6) 220 (3.2)!	16 (3.5) 216 (4.1)!	65 (7.0) 219 (4.4)	64 (5.6) 214 (2.3)

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TABLE D6.2B (continued)

Public School Teachers' Reports on the Frequency of Using Reading Kits

	At Least Once a Week		Once or Twice a Month		Never or Hardly Ever	
	1992	1994	1992	1994	1992	1994
	Percentage and Proficiency					
PARENTS' EDUCATION						
College graduate						
State	18 (2.9) 226 (4.1)	10 (2.5) 236 (4.9)!	22 (3.4) 235 (3.9)	17 (3.1) 224 (3.7)	60 (4.0) 232 (1.7)	73 (3.5) 235 (2.0)
Nation	20 (2.7) 218 (3.7)	21 (2.7) 214 (3.4)	20 (2.9) 225 (3.7)	19 (1.9) 224 (2.3)	60 (3.3) 226 (2.4)	60 (3.1) 226 (1.6)
Some ed after HS						
State	17 (4.5) *** (**.*)	13 (3.8) *** (**.*)	26 (5.3) 238 (4.2)!	18 (4.2) *** (**.*)	57 (5.3) 230 (2.8)	69 (4.8) 232 (3.4)
Nation	26 (5.1) 220 (6.7)!	17 (2.2) 214 (5.9)	18 (3.6) *** (**.*)	20 (3.0) 221 (3.7)	57 (6.0) 222 (3.7)	63 (3.4) 224 (2.9)
HS graduate						
State	15 (3.0) *** (**.*)	16 (4.1) *** (**.*)	19 (3.7) 219 (4.0)	16 (3.1) *** (**.*)	66 (4.6) 223 (2.0)	69 (4.7) 223 (2.8)
Nation	20 (2.9) 205 (4.7)	24 (3.4) 204 (4.1)	20 (2.9) 216 (3.2)	22 (3.1) 208 (4.5)	60 (3.8) 214 (3.8)	54 (3.9) 208 (2.6)
HS non-graduate						
State	29 (6.8) *** (**.*)	19 (6.1) *** (**.*)	17 (5.6) *** (**.*)	18 (5.3) *** (**.*)	53 (6.9) *** (**.*)	63 (7.2) *** (**.*)
Nation	30 (5.3) *** (**.*)	25 (3.9) 183 (11.3)	16 (3.8) *** (**.*)	18 (3.5) *** (**.*)	54 (5.2) 199 (5.6)	58 (5.5) 186 (3.8)
I don't know						
State	18 (2.7) 212 (4.2)	13 (2.6) 210 (5.9)!	24 (3.7) 218 (3.0)	20 (3.1) 216 (3.5)	58 (4.4) 218 (1.9)	67 (4.0) 218 (1.7)
Nation	24 (2.8) 204 (2.4)	21 (3.0) 198 (3.7)	19 (2.6) 212 (2.7)	22 (2.5) 207 (2.9)	57 (3.4) 212 (2.3)	57 (3.5) 208 (1.9)
GENDER						
Male						
State	19 (2.7) 216 (3.4)	13 (2.6) 219 (4.4)!	23 (3.6) 223 (2.5)	19 (2.8) 219 (3.0)	58 (4.1) 222 (1.5)	68 (3.5) 222 (1.4)
Nation	21 (2.6) 205 (3.0)	22 (2.6) 200 (3.0)	20 (2.6) 214 (2.4)	20 (2.1) 209 (2.6)	59 (3.5) 215 (2.5)	58 (3.0) 210 (1.9)
Female						
State	16 (2.6) 220 (3.7)	12 (2.7) 223 (5.4)!	22 (3.2) 229 (2.7)	17 (2.8) 220 (3.2)	61 (3.8) 228 (1.4)	70 (3.5) 230 (1.7)
Nation	24 (2.8) 216 (2.6)	20 (2.5) 212 (3.3)	19 (2.3) 221 (2.8)	21 (2.2) 220 (2.0)	57 (3.1) 222 (2.1)	59 (3.2) 222 (1.6)

The question associated with this variable was reformatted in 1994. No trend comparison tests were conducted.

The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500. The standard errors of the statistics appear in parentheses. It can be said with about 95 percent confidence that, for each population of interest, the value for the entire population is within ± 2 standard errors of the estimate for the sample. In comparing two estimates, one must use the standard error of the difference (see Appendix A for details). ! Interpret with caution — the nature of the sample does not allow accurate determination of the variability of this statistic. *** Sample size is insufficient to permit a reliable estimate.

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TABLE D6.2C

Public School Teachers' Reports on the Frequency of Using Computer Software for Reading Instruction

	At Least Once a Week		Once or Twice a Month		Never or Hardly Ever	
	1992	1994	1992	1994	1992	1994
	Percentage and Proficiency					
TOTAL						
State	14 (2.4) 216 (3.0)	15 (2.4) 217 (3.0)	21 (2.7) 223 (2.0)	24 (3.5) 226 (2.3)	65 (3.4) 226 (1.2)	61 (4.2) 225 (1.5)
Nation	25 (3.0) 212 (2.4)	24 (2.3) 211 (2.4)	23 (2.7) 216 (2.6)	22 (2.4) 219 (2.5)	52 (3.8) 218 (1.9)	55 (2.7) 213 (1.5)
RACE/ ETHNICITY						
White						
State	12 (2.4) 223 (2.7)!	12 (2.4) 227 (2.5)	21 (2.9) 227 (2.1)	26 (3.9) 228 (2.2)	67 (3.6) 228 (1.3)	62 (4.4) 229 (1.4)
Nation	21 (3.0) 221 (2.3)	23 (2.6) 222 (2.3)	26 (3.5) 221 (2.7)	23 (2.7) 226 (2.4)	53 (4.3) 224 (2.1)	54 (3.2) 222 (1.8)
Black						
State	24 (5.4) *** (**.*)	49 (7.2) *** (**.*)	27 (5.1) *** (**.*)	14 (4.6) *** (**.*)	50 (6.2) 205 (4.9)	37 (6.2) *** (**.*)
Nation	42 (5.2) 194 (3.1)	28 (4.5) 184 (3.2)	16 (3.3) 193 (4.9)!	15 (3.5) 189 (6.4)!	42 (4.7) 194 (3.1)	57 (5.2) 187 (1.9)
Hispanic						
State	23 (6.2) *** (**.*)	20 (6.2) *** (**.*)	23 (4.1) *** (**.*)	14 (4.0) *** (**.*)	54 (6.1) 215 (4.1)	65 (6.2) 204 (4.1)
Nation	28 (6.2) 203 (5.3)!	26 (4.1) 187 (3.7)	18 (2.7) 197 (5.8)	22 (3.7) 197 (6.0)	54 (7.0) 202 (2.4)	52 (3.8) 190 (3.3)
TYPE OF LOCATION						
Central City						
State	20 (4.2) 214 (4.8)!	21 (3.9) 208 (4.0)	21 (4.3) 217 (3.1)!	18 (5.8) 220 (5.0)!	59 (5.2) 228 (3.1)	61 (6.9) 226 (3.0)
Nation	37 (6.5) 207 (3.4)!	22 (3.2) 202 (4.2)	20 (3.6) 207 (4.0)	26 (3.8) 215 (4.8)	43 (5.6) 209 (3.4)	52 (3.8) 201 (2.3)
Urb Frng/Lrg Town						
State	5 (3.0) *** (**.*)	10 (3.7) *** (**.*)	31 (5.5) 228 (3.1)!	23 (6.2) 227 (3.7)!	64 (7.0) 225 (2.1)	67 (7.5) 226 (2.3)
Nation	22 (4.6) 218 (4.3)!	22 (3.7) 215 (4.0)	18 (3.2) 218 (4.2)	23 (3.8) 222 (3.5)	60 (5.1) 222 (3.1)	56 (4.4) 222 (2.1)
Rural/Small Town						
State	15 (4.5) 220 (3.3)!	13 (4.6) *** (**.*)	14 (3.9) 224 (4.0)!	31 (5.6) 228 (3.1)!	71 (5.4) 226 (2.1)	56 (6.8) 225 (2.3)
Nation	17 (4.1) 212 (3.5)!	30 (5.5) 215 (5.1)	33 (7.1) 220 (4.4)!	13 (4.3) 217 (5.4)!	50 (7.8) 219 (3.2)	57 (6.3) 212 (3.0)

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TABLE D6.2C (continued)

Public School Teachers' Reports on the Frequency of Using Computer Software for Reading Instruction

	At Least Once a Week		Once or Twice a Month		Never or Hardly Ever	
	1992	1994	1992	1994	1992	1994
	Percentage and Proficiency					
PARENTS' EDUCATION						
College graduate						
State	13 (2.3) 221 (3.8)	11 (1.8) 228 (4.4)	20 (3.1) 230 (2.3)	23 (3.8) 230 (2.9)	67 (3.9) 234 (1.8)	66 (4.3) 235 (2.2)
Nation	25 (3.5) 221 (3.2)	22 (2.1) 220 (2.8)	23 (3.5) 223 (3.1)	23 (3.0) 230 (2.8)	53 (4.6) 225 (2.6)	55 (3.4) 222 (1.6)
Some ed after HS						
State	12 (3.8) *** (**.*)	12 (3.6) *** (**.*)	25 (3.6) 233 (4.1)	27 (4.4) *** (**.*)	63 (4.3) 233 (2.9)	61 (5.1) 230 (3.0)
Nation	23 (3.4) 214 (4.9)	23 (3.1) 219 (3.9)	26 (3.2) 226 (4.4)	23 (3.4) 224 (4.9)	51 (4.9) 223 (3.8)	54 (3.6) 222 (3.0)
HS graduate						
State	14 (3.2) *** (**.*)	17 (3.6) *** (**.*)	22 (3.7) 221 (3.6)	27 (5.0) 228 (3.6)!	64 (4.5) 222 (1.8)	56 (5.7) 221 (3.3)
Nation	26 (4.1) 209 (4.2)	25 (3.0) 207 (3.5)	20 (2.9) 211 (4.1)	17 (2.5) 206 (4.6)	54 (4.7) 215 (2.8)	58 (3.0) 208 (3.2)
HS non-graduate						
State	13 (4.4) *** (**.*)	31 (5.5) *** (**.*)	21 (5.3) *** (**.*)	19 (4.2) *** (**.*)	66 (6.5) *** (**.*)	50 (5.9) *** (**.*)
Nation	34 (5.1) 195 (6.5)	27 (4.2) 190 (10.2)	22 (3.5) *** (**.*)	18 (3.4) *** (**.*)	44 (4.7) 199 (6.3)	55 (3.8) 186 (4.6)
I don't know						
State	15 (2.6) 211 (4.4)	18 (2.8) 213 (3.6)	22 (2.8) 217 (3.7)	24 (3.9) 220 (3.3)	64 (3.7) 219 (1.7)	58 (4.7) 217 (2.0)
Nation	24 (3.1) 206 (2.5)	25 (3.0) 204 (3.2)	25 (3.1) 210 (3.4)	22 (2.5) 210 (2.9)	51 (4.0) 213 (2.0)	54 (2.9) 205 (1.9)
GENDER						
Male						
State	14 (2.6) 215 (3.1)	15 (2.4) 217 (3.0)	21 (2.6) 222 (2.8)	24 (3.6) 222 (2.2)	64 (3.6) 223 (1.7)	60 (4.3) 222 (1.8)
Nation	24 (3.0) 208 (3.1)	25 (2.4) 204 (3.1)	24 (3.2) 212 (3.3)	21 (2.4) 215 (3.3)	52 (4.0) 214 (2.1)	55 (2.8) 207 (1.7)
Female						
State	13 (2.2) 217 (3.7)	15 (2.5) 217 (4.3)	21 (2.9) 225 (2.1)	24 (3.7) 229 (3.0)	65 (3.5) 230 (1.3)	61 (4.4) 229 (1.7)
Nation	26 (3.1) 216 (2.4)	23 (2.4) 218 (2.1)	22 (2.4) 221 (2.7)	23 (2.5) 222 (2.6)	52 (3.8) 222 (2.1)	55 (2.7) 219 (1.5)

The question associated with this variable was reformatted in 1994. No trend comparison tests were conducted.

The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500. The standard errors of the statistics appear in parentheses. It can be said with about 95 percent confidence that, for each population of interest, the value for the entire population is within ± 2 standard errors of the estimate for the sample. In comparing two estimates, one must use the standard error of the difference (see Appendix A for details). ! Interpret with caution — the nature of the sample does not allow accurate determination of the variability of this statistic. *** Sample size is insufficient to permit a reliable estimate.

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TABLE D6.2D

Public School Teachers' Reports on the Frequency of Using a Variety of Books

	At Least Once a Week		Once or Twice a Month		Never or Hardly Ever	
	1992	1994	1992	1994	1992	1994
	Percentage and Proficiency					
TOTAL						
State	61 (3.6) 224 (1.3)	70 (3.5) 226 (1.3)	30 (3.3) 223 (2.1)	27 (3.4) 221 (2.6)	9 (2.5) 225 (3.4)!	2 (0.6) *** (**.*)
Nation	65 (3.1) 217 (1.8)	75 (2.2) 214 (1.4)	26 (3.0) 216 (2.3)	21 (1.9) 214 (2.4)	9 (1.5) 210 (3.3)	5 (1.0) 208 (3.5)!
RACE/ ETHNICITY						
White						
State	60 (3.9) 228 (1.3)	71 (3.6) 230 (1.3)	31 (3.6) 226 (2.2)	27 (3.6) 225 (2.2)	10 (2.7) 227 (3.4)!	2 (0.6) *** (**.*)
Nation	65 (3.7) 224 (1.9)	75 (2.6) 223 (1.6)	26 (3.6) 222 (2.2)	21 (2.3) 225 (2.4)	8 (1.7) 214 (3.8)!	4 (1.1) 216 (4.4)!
Black						
State	71 (6.4) 200 (3.1)	75 (6.1) 196 (4.8)	27 (6.3) *** (**.*)	24 (6.1) *** (**.*)	3 (2.6) *** (**.*)	1 (1.4) *** (**.*)
Nation	62 (3.8) 193 (2.1)	70 (3.8) 186 (2.2)	28 (3.9) 195 (4.3)	21 (2.9) 187 (3.3)	10 (2.6) *** (**.*)	9 (2.0) 191 (4.1)!
Hispanic						
State	68 (4.4) 208 (4.3)	63 (6.1) 206 (4.8)	25 (4.1) *** (**.*)	35 (6.1) *** (**.*)	7 (2.9) *** (**.*)	2 (0.9) *** (**.*)
Nation	67 (4.3) 201 (2.8)	76 (3.1) 191 (2.7)	26 (3.7) 203 (5.1)	20 (2.8) 186 (4.2)	7 (2.2) *** (**.*)	4 (1.1) *** (**.*)
TYPE OF LOCATION						
Central City						
State	72 (4.8) 221 (2.3)	74 (5.0) 223 (2.2)	26 (4.7) 223 (3.8)	26 (4.9) 216 (5.9)!	2 (1.5) *** (**.*)	1 (0.8) *** (**.*)
Nation	69 (4.4) 208 (2.7)	67 (4.3) 204 (3.2)	21 (3.3) 208 (4.0)	27 (3.9) 205 (4.1)	10 (3.0) 206 (4.0)!	6 (1.2) 206 (4.0)!
Urb Frng/Lrg Town						
State	63 (7.7) 226 (2.2)	76 (5.9) 227 (2.0)	25 (6.9) 221 (2.8)!	20 (5.8) 219 (2.6)!	12 (5.1) *** (**.*)	4 (1.8) *** (**.*)
Nation	68 (4.3) 222 (2.7)	80 (3.1) 219 (2.0)	28 (3.7) 219 (3.4)	16 (2.8) 226 (2.3)	5 (1.5) 215 (6.0)!	4 (1.6) 217 (6.4)!
Rural/Small Town						
State	50 (6.5) 225 (2.5)	62 (6.1) 227 (2.2)	38 (5.4) 225 (3.5)	35 (6.1) 225 (3.0)!	12 (4.6) *** (**.*)	3 (0.9) *** (**.*)
Nation	58 (6.9) 220 (4.2)	75 (5.3) 215 (2.5)	29 (6.5) 218 (4.2)!	19 (4.3) 213 (5.3)!	12 (3.8) 209 (5.5)!	5 (2.0) 200 (6.8)!

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TABLE D6.2D (continued)

Public School Teachers' Reports on the Frequency of Using a Variety of Books

	At Least Once a Week		Once or Twice a Month		Never or Hardly Ever	
	1992	1994	1992	1994	1992	1994
	Percentage and Proficiency					
PARENTS' EDUCATION						
College graduate						
State	63 (3.7) 231 (2.3)	73 (3.9) 234 (1.8)	27 (3.4) 231 (2.2)	25 (3.9) 229 (3.7)	10 (2.7) 233 (4.9)!	2 (0.8) *** (**.*)
Nation	66 (3.4) 225 (2.3)	76 (2.4) 224 (1.5)	26 (3.2) 224 (3.4)	19 (2.0) 221 (3.2)	7 (1.4) 213 (5.1)	5 (1.1) 215 (3.9)!
Some ed after HS						
State	61 (4.5) 232 (2.6)	71 (5.3) 227 (2.5)	30 (5.2) 231 (3.9)	28 (5.0) *** (**.*)	9 (3.6) *** (**.*)	1 (1.3) *** (**.*)
Nation	67 (4.3) 221 (2.9)	77 (2.7) 221 (2.9)	22 (3.3) 224 (5.6)	18 (2.4) 224 (4.8)	10 (3.1) *** (**.*)	5 (1.6) *** (**.*)
HS graduate						
State	54 (5.0) 219 (2.1)	69 (4.4) 221 (2.8)	35 (4.6) 220 (3.2)	27 (4.4) 226 (4.0)	11 (3.7) *** (**.*)	4 (1.1) *** (**.*)
Nation	63 (4.4) 213 (3.1)	70 (3.2) 205 (2.2)	27 (4.5) 211 (3.7)	26 (2.9) 211 (4.3)	10 (2.8) *** (**.*)	4 (1.2) *** (**.*)
HS non-graduate						
State	63 (7.8) *** (**.*)	68 (6.7) *** (**.*)	26 (6.9) *** (**.*)	31 (6.7) *** (**.*)	11 (5.3) *** (**.*)	0 (0.0) *** (**.*)
Nation	65 (4.7) 199 (3.8)	71 (4.5) 185 (4.6)	26 (4.6) *** (**.*)	21 (3.6) 198 (7.7)	9 (2.6) *** (**.*)	8 (2.2) *** (**.*)
I don't know						
State	62 (3.8) 217 (1.5)	67 (3.6) 219 (1.9)	31 (3.6) 217 (3.7)	29 (3.5) 211 (3.2)	7 (2.2) *** (**.*)	3 (0.7) *** (**.*)
Nation	64 (3.3) 211 (2.1)	75 (2.4) 206 (1.7)	27 (3.3) 210 (2.6)	21 (2.2) 206 (2.9)	9 (1.5) 204 (3.4)	5 (0.9) 198 (6.8)
GENDER						
Male						
State	61 (3.6) 221 (1.6)	71 (3.5) 222 (1.5)	30 (3.6) 220 (2.7)	27 (3.5) 218 (2.7)	9 (2.4) 221 (4.5)!	2 (0.6) *** (**.*)
Nation	66 (3.3) 213 (2.2)	75 (2.3) 208 (1.4)	26 (3.1) 214 (2.4)	20 (1.9) 207 (3.3)	8 (1.5) 204 (4.0)	5 (1.1) 203 (4.5)!
Female						
State	61 (3.8) 226 (1.8)	69 (3.7) 229 (1.6)	30 (3.4) 227 (2.2)	28 (3.6) 223 (3.4)	9 (2.6) 229 (3.4)!	3 (0.8) *** (**.*)
Nation	65 (3.1) 222 (1.8)	74 (2.3) 219 (1.6)	26 (3.0) 218 (2.6)	21 (2.0) 220 (2.3)	9 (1.8) 214 (4.0)	5 (0.9) 214 (3.4)!

The question associated with this variable was reformatted in 1994. No trend comparison tests were conducted.

The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500. The standard errors of the statistics appear in parentheses. It can be said with about 95 percent confidence that, for each population of interest, the value for the entire population is within ± 2 standard errors of the estimate for the sample. In comparing two estimates, one must use the standard error of the difference (see Appendix A for details). ! Interpret with caution — the nature of the sample does not allow accurate determination of the variability of this statistic. *** Sample size is insufficient to permit a reliable estimate.

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TABLE D6.2E

Public School Teachers' Reports on the Frequency of Using Materials from Other Subject Areas

	At Least Once a Week		Once or Twice a Month		Never or Hardly Ever	
	1992	1994	1992	1994	1992	1994
	Percentage and Proficiency					
TOTAL						
State	54 (3.4) 222 (1.5)	61 (3.0) 225 (1.7)	29 (3.3) 226 (1.8)	33 (2.9) 221 (1.9)	17 (2.8) 225 (2.9)	6 (1.7) 232 (3.2)!
Nation	56 (2.5) 218 (1.9)	69 (2.3) 213 (1.3)	30 (2.5) 213 (2.0)	22 (2.0) 214 (2.1)	14 (2.3) 217 (3.2)	9 (1.6) 212 (3.9)
RACE/ ETHNICITY						
White						
State	53 (3.7) 227 (1.5)	61 (3.0) 230 (1.6)	31 (3.4) 228 (1.8)	33 (2.9) 223 (1.8)	17 (2.9) 228 (3.0)	6 (1.8) 235 (2.8)!
Nation	55 (3.0) 226 (2.1)	69 (2.6) 223 (1.5)	30 (3.0) 219 (2.2)	23 (2.3) 223 (2.4)	15 (2.8) 221 (3.5)	9 (1.9) 220 (4.5)!
Black						
State	63 (8.5) 201 (4.0)	63 (7.5) 193 (4.1)!	21 (8.6) *** (**.*)	32 (7.2) *** (**.*)	16 (6.7) *** (**.*)	6 (3.2) *** (**.*)
Nation	59 (4.0) 193 (2.3)	67 (3.9) 186 (2.3)	31 (4.4) 193 (2.9)	24 (3.1) 185 (3.5)	10 (2.7) 201 (5.1)!	9 (2.2) 192 (5.4)!
Hispanic						
State	60 (5.8) 203 (5.4)	61 (5.6) 201 (6.1)	26 (5.7) *** (**.*)	36 (6.2) *** (**.*)	14 (3.8) *** (**.*)	3 (1.8) *** (**.*)
Nation	58 (3.4) 201 (2.7)	71 (3.2) 189 (2.8)	27 (3.4) 202 (3.7)	21 (2.8) 195 (5.0)	15 (2.5) 203 (4.6)	8 (2.1) 189 (6.5)!
TYPE OF LOCATION						
Central City						
State	67 (6.2) 221 (2.7)	65 (5.1) 221 (3.0)	24 (6.0) 223 (4.4)!	30 (5.4) 219 (4.0)!	9 (3.4) *** (**.*)	5 (2.5) *** (**.*)
Nation	58 (5.2) 209 (2.8)	67 (3.4) 204 (2.6)	32 (3.8) 205 (3.1)!	24 (2.8) 208 (3.6)	10 (3.7) 212 (3.3)!	9 (2.5) 204 (5.6)!
Urb Frng/Lrg Town						
State	53 (6.5) 224 (2.4)	64 (5.4) 227 (2.1)	36 (6.4) 226 (2.7)!	29 (4.6) 220 (2.6)	11 (5.0) *** (**.*)	7 (3.5) *** (**.*)
Nation	55 (3.9) 222 (3.2)	70 (3.9) 220 (2.2)	29 (4.6) 218 (2.9)!	22 (3.6) 221 (2.7)	16 (3.2) 222 (5.8)!	7 (2.1) 222 (6.5)!
Rural/Small Town						
State	45 (6.2) 223 (2.6)	54 (5.2) 228 (2.9)	28 (4.4) 229 (3.2)	40 (5.0) 222 (2.5)	27 (4.9) 224 (3.5)!	7 (2.8) *** (**.*)
Nation	55 (3.8) 222 (4.0)	69 (4.7) 215 (2.2)	28 (4.7) 214 (4.5)!	21 (3.2) 210 (4.2)	17 (3.5) 214 (4.1)	10 (3.5) 209 (5.6)!

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TABLE D6.2E (continued)

Public School Teachers' Reports on the Frequency of Using Materials from Other Subject Areas

		At Least Once a Week		Once or Twice a Month		Never or Hardly Ever	
		1992	1994	1992	1994	1992	1994
		Percentage and Proficiency					
PARENTS' EDUCATION							
College graduate	State	54 (4.0) 228 (2.4)	66 (3.4) 234 (2.0)	29 (3.7) 233 (2.4)	28 (3.1) 228 (3.2)	17 (3.4) 237 (3.1)!	6 (1.8) *** (**.*)
	Nation	59 (3.1) 226 (2.4)	69 (2.5) 223 (1.6)	27 (2.7) 220 (2.9)	23 (2.2) 224 (2.8)	14 (2.4) 224 (5.3)	8 (1.7) 222 (4.4)!
Some ed after HS	State	56 (4.3) 233 (2.6)	61 (4.8) 228 (3.0)	31 (5.0) 232 (4.0)	32 (4.2) *** (**.*)	13 (3.9) *** (**.*)	6 (2.2) *** (**.*)
	Nation	55 (4.3) 224 (3.7)	70 (3.4) 222 (2.6)	35 (4.4) 219 (4.3)	23 (2.8) 221 (4.9)	10 (2.4) *** (**.*)	7 (2.0) *** (**.*)
HS graduate	State	50 (5.0) 220 (2.6)	54 (4.1) 223 (3.2)	28 (3.9) 222 (3.4)	40 (4.4) 222 (3.5)	23 (4.0) 218 (4.5)!	6 (2.0) *** (**.*)
	Nation	56 (3.0) 213 (3.0)	66 (3.1) 207 (2.1)	26 (3.0) 209 (·3.6)	26 (2.9) 205 (5.0)	18 (2.7) 215 (4.3)	8 (1.5) 217 (4.2)
HS non-graduate	State	53 (7.1) *** (**.*)	69 (6.3) *** (**.*)	32 (8.1) *** (**.*)	31 (6.3) *** (**.*)	15 (5.5) *** (**.*)	0 (0.0) *** (**.*)
	Nation	55 (4.6) 195 (2.9)	66 (4.3) 191 (4.6)	30 (4.6) *** (**.*)	23 (4.2) *** (**.*)	14 (3.6) *** (**.*)	11 (2.9) *** (**.*)
I don't know	State	56 (3.4) 215 (2.0)	57 (3.4) 217 (2.4)	30 (3.5) 221 (3.4)	36 (3.5) 214 (2.3)	14 (2.7) 216 (3.7)	7 (1.9) *** (**.*)
	Nation	53 (2.7) 211 (2.3)	70 (2.7) 205 (1.8)	32 (2.6) 208 (2.8)	20 (2.4) 208 (2.4)	15 (2.8) 211 (2.3)	10 (1.7) 202 (5.2)
GENDER							
Male	State	55 (3.5) 220 (1.9)	60 (3.0) 223 (1.7)	28 (3.3) 223 (2.5)	34 (3.1) 217 (2.1)	17 (2.8) 221 (3.5)	6 (1.7) 230 (4.1)!
	Nation	57 (2.6) 214 (2.2)	69 (2.3) 208 (1.4)	30 (2.5) 209 (2.2)	22 (2.0) 206 (2.8)	13 (2.4) 212 (3.4)	9 (1.7) 208 (4.5)
Female	State	54 (3.6) 225 (1.7)	61 (3.2) 228 (2.1)	30 (3.6) 229 (2.1)	33 (3.1) 225 (2.6)	16 (2.9) 228 (3.2)	7 (1.8) 234 (4.5)!
	Nation	55 (2.6) 222 (2.0)	69 (2.5) 219 (1.5)	30 (2.7) 217 (2.6)	23 (2.1) 221 (2.0)	15 (2.5) 221 (3.5)	8 (1.6) 217 (4.5)

The question associated with this variable was reformatted in 1994. No trend comparison tests were conducted.

The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500. The standard errors of the statistics appear in parentheses. It can be said with about 95 percent confidence that, for each population of interest, the value for the entire population is within ± 2 standard errors of the estimate for the sample. In comparing two estimates, one must use the standard error of the difference (see Appendix A for details). ! Interpret with caution — the nature of the sample does not allow accurate determination of the variability of this statistic. *** Sample size is insufficient to permit a reliable estimate.

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TABLE D6.3A

Public School Teachers' Reports on Asking Students to Work in a Reading Workbook or on a Worksheet

	Almost Every Day		At Least Once a Week		Less than Weekly	
	1992	1994	1992	1994	1992	1994
	Percentage and Proficiency					
TOTAL						
State	27 (3.7) 223 (2.0)	19 (3.6) 223 (2.0)	50 (4.2) 225 (1.4)	45 (3.6) 224 (2.0)	24 (3.5) 222 (2.8)	36 (3.8) 225 (1.9)
Nation	31 (2.7) 213 (1.8)	26 (2.6) 207 (2.5)	48 (3.4) 216 (1.7)	48 (2.5) 214 (1.4)	22 (2.8) 221 (3.3)	26 (2.9) 217 (1.9)
RACE/ ETHNICITY						
White						
State	27 (3.9) 225 (2.3)	19 (3.9) 226 (1.9)!	49 (4.3) 229 (1.3)	43 (3.8) 229 (1.6)	25 (3.7) 226 (2.3)	38 (4.0) 229 (1.8)
Nation	28 (3.0) 220 (2.1)	23 (2.8) 220 (2.3)	49 (3.9) 223 (1.9)	49 (3.0) 223 (1.8)	23 (3.3) 227 (3.3)	29 (3.4) 224 (2.1)
Black						
State	27 (7.7) *** (**.*)	26 (6.8) *** (**.*)	56 (8.8) 200 (4.3)	51 (8.4) *** (**.*)	17 (7.0) *** (**.*)	23 (4.9) *** (**.*)
Nation	39 (4.1) 196 (2.7)	38 (4.8) 183 (2.3)	44 (4.0) 192 (2.4)	48 (3.4) 188 (2.1)	17 (4.1) 195 (4.7)!	14 (3.1) 189 (4.3)!
Hispanic						
State	25 (4.8) *** (**.*)	16 (5.7) *** (**.*)	58 (4.9) 209 (4.7)	60 (6.9) 200 (6.0)	18 (3.8) *** (**.*)	24 (6.5) *** (**.*)
Nation	40 (4.0) 199 (3.0)	29 (3.3) 188 (4.6)	46 (3.9) 202 (3.3)	45 (4.4) 193 (3.2)	14 (3.5) 205 (5.8)!	26 (3.5) 188 (4.3)
TYPE OF LOCATION						
Central City						
State	25 (4.6) 224 (3.0)!	20 (5.9) 220 (3.2)!	49 (6.0) 223 (3.9)	42 (6.5) 217 (4.7)	28 (5.6) 218 (5.1)!	38 (6.4) 225 (3.4)
Nation	40 (5.7) 207 (3.0)	34 (4.4) 198 (4.0)	42 (4.2) 205 (3.1)	45 (3.9) 208 (2.7)	18 (3.7) 216 (4.4)!	21 (3.9) 208 (3.9)!
Urb Frng/Lrg Town						
State	23 (7.0) 219 (4.6)!	18 (6.0) 219 (4.5)!	51 (8.2) 225 (2.1)!	33 (6.4) 228 (2.6)!	26 (7.6) 229 (2.5)!	49 (8.7) 227 (2.3)!
Nation	21 (3.7) 217 (2.8)!	20 (4.1) 216 (4.1)!	54 (4.1) 221 (2.7)	46 (4.3) 219 (2.4)	25 (4.5) 223 (4.8)!	34 (4.2) 224 (2.5)
Rural/Small Town						
State	30 (6.2) 225 (3.8)	20 (6.9) 228 (2.3)!	50 (6.3) 226 (1.9)	56 (5.9) 227 (2.2)	20 (4.9) 221 (4.6)!	24 (6.3) 224 (3.8)!
Nation	34 (6.4) 215 (3.8)	23 (5.6) 212 (5.4)!	45 (9.1) 218 (3.1)!	57 (6.2) 215 (2.3)	21 (6.8) 223 (6.9)!	20 (6.2) 212 (4.4)!

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TABLE D6.3A (continued)

Public School Teachers' Reports on Asking Students to Work in a Reading Workbook or on a Worksheet

	Almost Every Day		At Least Once a Week		Less than Weekly	
	1992	1994	1992	1994	1992	1994
	Percentage and Proficiency					
PARENTS' EDUCATION						
College graduate						
State	26 (3.8) 231 (2.6)	16 (3.3) 230 (2.7)!	49 (4.8) 232 (1.9)	43 (3.6) 232 (2.9)	25 (4.1) 229 (4.4)	41 (3.8) 235 (2.0)
Nation	30 (3.2) 220 (2.5)	24 (2.9) 215 (3.2)	46 (3.5) 225 (2.4)	48 (3.0) 224 (1.7)	24 (3.1) 227 (4.9)	28 (3.3) 229 (2.1)
Some ed after HS						
State	27 (4.8) 230 (3.8)!	23 (4.7) *** (**.*)	54 (5.4) 234 (2.6)	43 (5.9) 232 (4.2)	19 (3.4) *** (**.*)	34 (5.7) 225 (3.9)!
Nation	22 (3.4) 217 (4.7)	23 (3.2) 220 (5.6)	56 (5.8) 223 (3.6)	45 (3.8) 225 (2.8)	22 (4.6) 222 (4.3)!	32 (3.8) 219 (4.3)
HS graduate						
State	28 (5.0) 221 (2.6)	22 (5.2) 225 (4.0)!	51 (5.7) 220 (2.1)	47 (4.7) 221 (2.8)	21 (3.7) 216 (4.1)	31 (4.6) 224 (4.7)
Nation	33 (3.9) 213 (3.3)	32 (3.6) 206 (3.6)	47 (4.4) 209 (2.8)	50 (3.0) 208 (2.8)	19 (4.0) 219 (4.6)!	18 (2.5) 208 (4.3)
HS non-graduate						
State	39 (8.5) *** (**.*)	22 (5.5) *** (**.*)	36 (7.6) *** (**.*)	56 (5.7) *** (**.*)	25 (7.6) *** (**.*)	22 (5.6) *** (**.*)
Nation	27 (4.6) *** (**.*)	24 (4.7) 188 (5.9)!	58 (5.1) 197 (4.1)	49 (4.5) 193 (5.5)	15 (3.4) *** (**.*)	26 (5.0) 180 (8.7)!
I don't know						
State	26 (3.6) 215 (2.6)	20 (4.0) 218 (2.6)!	49 (4.0) 218 (2.1)	45 (4.2) 216 (2.5)	25 (3.7) 218 (3.2)	35 (4.6) 216 (2.9)
Nation	33 (3.0) 205 (2.2)	27 (2.8) 200 (3.1)	46 (3.5) 211 (2.2)	48 (2.9) 206 (1.8)	21 (2.7) 217 (3.5)	26 (2.9) 210 (2.3)
GENDER						
Male						
State	26 (3.7) 221 (2.5)	20 (3.9) 220 (2.3)!	50 (4.3) 221 (1.8)	44 (3.6) 221 (1.7)	23 (3.7) 221 (3.1)	36 (3.7) 222 (2.4)
Nation	30 (3.0) 211 (2.4)	27 (2.7) 203 (2.6)	47 (3.8) 211 (1.9)	47 (2.4) 208 (1.6)	23 (3.0) 218 (3.5)	26 (2.8) 213 (2.7)
Female						
State	27 (3.8) 225 (2.3)	18 (3.5) 226 (2.6)!	49 (4.2) 229 (1.5)	46 (3.8) 226 (2.8)	24 (3.4) 224 (3.3)	36 (4.1) 229 (2.2)
Nation	32 (2.7) 215 (2.0)	25 (2.6) 212 (3.0)	48 (3.2) 222 (2.2)	49 (2.9) 221 (1.7)	20 (2.7) 225 (3.6)	26 (3.1) 222 (1.8)

The question associated with this variable was reformatted in 1994. No trend comparison tests were conducted.

The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500. The standard errors of the statistics appear in parentheses. It can be said with about 95 percent confidence that, for each population of interest, the value for the entire population is within ± 2 standard errors of the estimate for the sample. In comparing two estimates, one must use the standard error of the difference (see Appendix A for details). ! Interpret with caution — the nature of the sample does not allow accurate determination of the variability of this statistic. *** Sample size is insufficient to permit a reliable estimate.

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TABLE D6.3B

Public School Students' Reports on Working in a Reading Workbook or on a Worksheet

	Almost Every Day		At Least Once a Week		Less than Weekly	
	1992	1994	1992	1994	1992	1994
	Percentage and Proficiency					
TOTAL						
State	55 (2.2) 226 (1.0)	50 (1.9) 226 (1.5)	28 (1.4) 223 (1.4)	26 (1.0) 226 (1.6)	18 (1.2) 218 (2.3)	24 (1.6) > 221 (1.6)
Nation	50 (1.6) 217 (1.1)	51 (1.3) 218 (1.3)	29 (1.0) 218 (1.7)	25 (0.9) < 215 (1.4)	21 (1.1) 210 (1.7)	24 (1.0) 203 (1.9) <
RACE/ ETHNICITY						
White						
State	55 (2.4) 229 (1.0)	49 (2.1) 230 (1.3)	27 (1.5) 227 (1.7)	27 (1.0) 229 (1.8)	17 (1.2) 221 (2.3)	24 (1.7) > 225 (1.8)
Nation	48 (1.9) 225 (1.5)	50 (1.6) 228 (1.4)	30 (1.2) 225 (1.9)	25 (1.2) < 224 (1.5)	22 (1.3) 219 (2.1)	25 (1.2) 213 (2.2)
Black						
State	50 (5.8) 204 (4.7)	55 (4.6) *** (**.*)	29 (5.4) *** (**.*)	25 (3.7) *** (**.*)	21 (4.5) *** (**.*)	20 (4.1) *** (**.*)
Nation	58 (2.3) 196 (2.3)	54 (1.8) 193 (2.1)	24 (1.8) 193 (2.9)	23 (1.4) 187 (3.1)	18 (1.6) 183 (2.8)	23 (1.4) 176 (2.8)
Hispanic						
State	54 (3.6) 214 (3.4)	55 (4.1) 203 (5.8)	31 (3.8) *** (**.*)	15 (3.1) < *** (**.*)	15 (3.0) *** (**.*)	30 (3.4) > *** (**.*)
Nation	51 (2.2) 202 (1.8)	50 (1.5) 196 (3.2)	29 (1.8) 202 (3.1)	24 (1.3) 189 (3.4) <	20 (1.5) 193 (4.9)	26 (1.4) 178 (4.0)
TYPE OF LOCATION						
Central City						
State	52 (3.6) 224 (2.6)	48 (3.5) 221 (3.4)	30 (2.5) 223 (2.4)	25 (2.0) 226 (2.7)	18 (2.0) 216 (3.8)	27 (2.8) 220 (2.5)
Nation	50 (2.6) 208 (1.7)	51 (1.9) 210 (2.4)	29 (1.4) 210 (2.1)	24 (1.4) 205 (3.4)	21 (1.6) 203 (2.5)	25 (1.5) 197 (3.7)
Urb Frng/Lrg Town						
State	47 (4.1) 226 (1.9)	46 (4.0) 226 (2.7)	31 (2.7) 227 (2.3)	26 (2.0) 227 (2.6)	22 (2.3) 222 (3.7)	29 (3.2) 224 (2.8)
Nation	46 (2.1) 221 (2.2)	50 (1.6) 225 (2.0)	32 (1.8) 223 (3.2)	26 (1.0) 221 (2.2)	22 (1.3) 215 (2.6)	24 (1.3) 209 (2.7)
Rural/Small Town						
State	62 (2.9) 228 (1.5)	55 (3.0) 229 (1.5)	24 (1.9) 220 (2.9)	26 (1.7) 226 (2.9)	14 (1.6) 216 (4.0)	19 (2.4) 220 (3.3)
Nation	55 (3.7) 220 (2.5)	51 (3.9) 219 (2.6)	24 (1.7) 218 (3.5)	25 (2.5) 215 (3.3)	20 (3.0) 212 (5.4)	24 (2.9) 201 (3.6)

(continued on next page)

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TABLE D6.3B (continued)

Public School Students' Reports on Working in a Reading Workbook or on a Worksheet

	Almost Every Day		At Least Once a Week		Less than Weekly	
	1992	1994	1992	1994	1992	1994
	Percentage and Proficiency					
PARENTS' EDUCATION						
College graduate						
State	55 (2.5) 233 (1.6)	48 (2.5) 236 (2.1)	28 (1.8) 231 (2.9)	26 (1.4) 231 (2.4)	17 (1.8) 226 (3.3)	26 (2.0) > 230 (2.6)
Nation	49 (2.2) 224 (1.8)	53 (1.4) 226 (1.3)	30 (1.7) 228 (2.5)	24 (1.2) 226 (1.8)	21 (1.6) 218 (2.7)	23 (1.2) 214 (3.0)
Some ed after HS						
State	57 (3.6) 235 (2.4)	57 (4.1) 229 (3.2)	30 (3.1) 231 (3.8)	23 (3.0) *** (**.*)	13 (2.1) *** (**.*)	19 (3.3) *** (**.*)
Nation	51 (4.0) 222 (2.5)	48 (3.1) 227 (2.8)	29 (3.0) 225 (4.0)	26 (3.0) 223 (3.2)	20 (2.6) 218 (6.5)	26 (2.4) 216 (4.0)
HS graduate						
State	54 (2.8) 223 (2.0)	56 (3.8) 222 (3.6)	31 (2.1) 215 (2.7)	23 (3.0) 228 (3.8)	15 (2.0) 220 (5.0)	21 (2.7) 220 (4.2)
Nation	53 (2.4) 213 (2.7)	53 (2.4) 214 (2.6)	26 (2.0) 211 (2.8)	25 (1.8) 209 (3.4)	21 (2.0) 206 (2.9)	23 (2.0) 193 (3.7)
HS non-graduate						
State	52 (7.0) *** (**.*)	57 (4.8) *** (**.*)	23 (5.1) *** (**.*)	14 (3.9) *** (**.*)	25 (5.4) *** (**.*)	29 (4.2) *** (**.*)
Nation	56 (3.2) 201 (3.0)	54 (4.2) 200 (4.1)	24 (3.1) 194 (5.6)	18 (2.7) *** (**.*)	19 (2.3) *** (**.*)	28 (2.8) 175 (7.3)
I don't know						
State	54 (2.8) 219 (1.8)	48 (2.7) 217 (2.0)	26 (1.9) 217 (1.9)	27 (1.8) 221 (2.1)	20 (1.7) 210 (3.0)	25 (2.4) 214 (3.4)
Nation	49 (1.9) 212 (1.7)	47 (1.5) 211 (1.7)	29 (1.3) 210 (2.0)	27 (1.0) 205 (2.1)	22 (1.2) 205 (2.4)	26 (1.2) 196 (2.4)
GENDER						
Male						
State	53 (2.4) 224 (1.3)	48 (2.1) 223 (1.7)	28 (1.6) 220 (2.2)	26 (1.7) 222 (2.0)	19 (1.6) 216 (3.0)	26 (2.0) > 217 (2.2)
Nation	48 (1.7) 213 (1.5)	49 (1.4) 215 (1.4)	29 (1.1) 214 (2.2)	24 (1.1) < 208 (1.9)	23 (1.3) 208 (2.1)	27 (1.4) 198 (2.5) <
Female						
State	56 (2.5) 228 (1.3)	52 (2.3) 228 (2.1)	28 (1.7) 227 (1.7)	25 (1.7) 230 (2.1)	16 (1.6) 220 (3.0)	23 (2.1) > 226 (2.4)
Nation	52 (1.9) 220 (1.2)	52 (1.5) 222 (1.6)	28 (1.3) 222 (1.9)	26 (1.1) 221 (1.6)	20 (1.2) 214 (2.3)	22 (1.0) 210 (2.0)

The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500. The standard errors of the statistics appear in parentheses. It can be said with about 95 percent confidence that, for each population of interest, the value for the entire population is within ± 2 standard errors of the estimate for the sample. In comparing two estimates, one must use the standard error of the difference (see Appendix A for details). If the notation > (<) appears, it signifies that the value for public school students in 1994 was significantly higher (lower) than the value for 1992 at about the 95 percent confidence level. *** Sample size is insufficient to permit a reliable estimate.

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TABLE D6.3C

Public School Teachers' Reports on Asking Students to Write About Something They Have Read

	Almost Every Day		At Least Once a Week		Less than Weekly	
	1992	1994	1992	1994	1992	1994
	Percentage and Proficiency					
TOTAL						
State	28 (3.0) 222 (1.6)	28 (3.1) 222 (2.1)	57 (3.0) 224 (1.3)	61 (3.6) 226 (1.5)	15 (3.1) 226 (2.6)!	11 (2.1) 218 (2.4)!
Nation	25 (1.8) 220 (2.7)	30 (2.4) 212 (2.5)	49 (2.6) 216 (1.9)	56 (2.3) 213 (1.5)	26 (2.5) 213 (2.4)	14 (2.0) 215 (2.6)
RACE/ ETHNICITY						
White						
State	27 (3.3) 227 (1.6)	27 (3.2) 228 (2.2)	57 (3.2) 227 (1.3)	63 (3.8) 230 (1.4)	16 (3.4) 228 (2.7)!	10 (2.2) 220 (2.4)!
Nation	24 (2.4) 228 (2.7)	30 (2.9) 221 (2.3)	49 (3.1) 223 (2.1)	56 (2.6) 224 (1.6)	27 (3.0) 219 (2.8)	14 (2.4) 224 (2.3)
Black						
State	32 (6.6) *** (**.*)	41 (10.9) *** (**.*)	56 (7.1) 201 (4.3)!	52 (8.8) *** (**.*)	12 (3.0) *** (**.*)	8 (3.8) *** (**.*)
Nation	25 (4.0) 192 (3.2)	28 (4.3) 186 (4.2)	49 (4.4) 194 (2.8)	56 (4.8) 185 (2.4)	26 (4.1) 196 (3.1)	15 (3.3) 192 (3.7)!
Hispanic						
State	30 (5.0) *** (**.*)	31 (5.0) *** (**.*)	60 (5.1) 209 (5.0)	49 (6.1) 204 (5.5)	10 (3.3) *** (**.*)	20 (4.3) *** (**.*)
Nation	24 (3.3) 203 (3.7)	30 (3.1) 189 (4.8)	53 (3.6) 202 (3.0)	57 (4.1) 190 (2.4)	23 (2.8) 198 (4.1)	13 (2.3) 195 (5.9)
TYPE OF LOCATION						
Central City						
State	29 (4.9) 217 (2.7)	22 (4.5) 213 (4.1)!	59 (4.9) 223 (3.2)	68 (5.6) 223 (2.7)	12 (4.1) 228 (4.0)!	10 (4.7) *** (**.*)
Nation	28 (3.1) 215 (3.8)	27 (4.2) 201 (5.8)	46 (4.3) 206 (3.4)	61 (3.8) 206 (3.0)	26 (3.6) 205 (3.9)	12 (2.2) 204 (5.3)
Urb Frng/Lrg Town						
State	30 (5.3) 226 (3.0)	37 (5.6) 224 (2.9)	60 (5.7) 223 (2.1)	55 (6.0) 228 (2.1)	10 (4.2) *** (**.*)	8 (2.9) *** (**.*)
Nation	29 (4.3) 222 (5.0)	33 (3.9) 220 (2.8)	51 (4.1) 220 (2.3)	52 (4.1) 220 (2.2)	21 (3.2) 220 (4.8)!	14 (3.1) 223 (3.1)!
Rural/Small Town						
State	25 (5.4) 224 (3.1)!	26 (5.9) 228 (4.1)!	54 (5.4) 225 (2.4)	60 (6.7) 228 (2.3)	21 (6.1) 224 (4.2)!	13 (3.1) 217 (3.6)!
Nation	15 (3.3) 223 (4.9)!	28 (4.8) 213 (4.7)	51 (6.5) 219 (4.5)	55 (4.5) 213 (2.4)	34 (7.2) 214 (3.2)!	18 (5.0) 215 (5.3)!

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TABLE D6.3C (continued)

Public School Teachers' Reports on Asking Students to Write About Something They Have Read

	Almost Every Day		At Least Once a Week		Less than Weekly	
	1992	1994	1992	1994	1992	1994
	Percentage and Proficiency					
PARENTS' EDUCATION						
College graduate						
State	28 (3.0) 227 (2.9)	28 (3.4) 231 (2.7)	58 (3.1) 233 (1.8)	62 (3.4) 235 (2.2)	14 (3.0) 233 (4.0)!	10 (2.0) 222 (4.7)!
Nation	27 (2.3) 230 (3.9)	31 (2.8) 224 (2.4)	49 (3.1) 222 (2.4)	58 (2.7) 222 (1.6)	24 (2.8) 222 (3.7)	11 (1.8) 225 (3.9)
Some ed after HS						
State	27 (4.5) 235 (3.5)	32 (4.9) 223 (4.1)	59 (5.0) 231 (3.0)	58 (5.6) 230 (3.3)	15 (5.2) *** (**.*)	10 (3.1) *** (**.*)
Nation	24 (3.4) 226 (5.2)	27 (3.3) 217 (4.2)	45 (4.3) 224 (4.7)	56 (3.6) 224 (3.0)	31 (4.2) 215 (2.7)	16 (2.9) 225 (4.6)
HS graduate						
State	25 (3.9) 219 (3.5)	23 (3.6) 221 (4.6)	57 (4.1) 219 (1.9)	66 (4.7) 225 (2.6)	17 (3.7) 223 (5.1)!	10 (2.6) *** (**.*)
Nation	24 (3.2) 211 (4.7)	27 (3.1) 204 (4.0)	48 (3.7) 214 (2.6)	57 (3.2) 207 (2.9)	28 (4.2) 210 (4.7)	16 (3.0) 214 (4.1)
HS non-graduate						
State	31 (6.4) *** (**.*)	27 (6.1) *** (**.*)	51 (8.7) *** (**.*)	63 (6.4) *** (**.*)	18 (5.4) *** (**.*)	11 (4.1) *** (**.*)
Nation	25 (4.1) *** (**.*)	31 (5.0) 186 (6.9)	45 (4.3) 201 (5.1)	54 (4.7) 188 (4.9)	30 (4.1) *** (**.*)	15 (3.2) *** (**.*)
I don't know						
State	28 (3.5) 217 (2.6)	29 (3.6) 216 (3.0)	57 (3.6) 216 (1.9)	59 (4.4) 217 (1.9)	15 (3.0) 221 (3.4)!	12 (2.8) 213 (4.4)!
Nation	23 (2.0) 214 (3.0)	30 (2.6) 204 (2.7)	52 (2.9) 210 (2.2)	54 (2.5) 205 (1.9)	26 (2.9) 207 (2.4)	16 (2.5) 208 (3.4)
GENDER						
Male						
State	28 (3.1) 220 (2.1)	28 (3.2) 222 (2.5)	57 (3.2) 221 (1.5)	61 (4.0) 222 (1.6)	15 (3.2) 222 (3.6)!	11 (2.4) 216 (3.1)!
Nation	25 (2.3) 217 (3.3)	31 (2.6) 207 (2.7)	50 (2.6) 212 (2.2)	55 (2.4) 208 (1.8)	25 (2.5) 209 (2.6)	15 (2.1) 209 (3.3)
Female						
State	27 (3.0) 224 (1.8)	28 (3.2) 223 (2.9)	58 (3.0) 227 (1.6)	62 (3.5) 230 (1.9)	15 (3.1) 229 (2.9)!	10 (2.1) 220 (3.3)!
Nation	24 (1.7) 224 (2.8)	29 (2.3) 219 (2.9)	49 (2.8) 220 (2.0)	57 (2.3) 219 (1.6)	27 (2.7) 218 (2.6)	14 (1.9) 223 (2.6)

The question associated with this variable was reformatted in 1994. No trend comparison tests were conducted.

The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500. The standard errors of the statistics appear in parentheses. It can be said with about 95 percent confidence that, for each population of interest, the value for the entire population is within ± 2 standard errors of the estimate for the sample. In comparing two estimates, one must use the standard error of the difference (see Appendix A for details). ! Interpret with caution — the nature of the sample does not allow accurate determination of the variability of this statistic. *** Sample size is insufficient to permit a reliable estimate.

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1994 Trial State Assessment

TABLE D6.3D

Public School Students' Reports on Writing About Something They Have Read

	Almost Every Day		At Least Once a Week		Less than Weekly	
	1992	1994	1992	1994	1992	1994
	Percentage and Proficiency					
TOTAL						
State	19 (1.2) 218 (1.8)	20 (1.1) 220 (2.0)	36 (1.0) 224 (1.2)	35 (1.2) 227 (1.4)	45 (1.4) 226 (1.2)	45 (1.3) 224 (1.3)
Nation	23 (0.8) 210 (1.6)	23 (1.0) 208 (1.8)	34 (1.0) 217 (1.2)	33 (0.7) 215 (1.4)	43 (1.2) 217 (1.2)	44 (0.9) 216 (1.3)
RACE/ ETHNICITY						
White						
State	17 (1.1) 223 (1.4)	18 (1.1) 226 (2.1)	36 (1.2) 227 (1.3)	34 (1.3) 232 (1.3)	47 (1.6) 228 (1.3)	48 (1.5) 226 (1.4)
Nation	20 (1.1) 219 (2.0)	21 (1.1) 220 (2.1)	34 (1.3) 225 (1.7)	32 (0.9) 224 (1.6)	46 (1.6) 224 (1.6)	47 (1.2) 224 (1.5)
Black						
State	30 (3.8) *** (**.*)	32 (4.9) *** (**.*)	41 (3.3) 200 (3.6)	44 (4.4) *** (**.*)	29 (3.1) *** (**.*)	24 (3.6) *** (**.*)
Nation	32 (1.7) 193 (2.6)	35 (1.8) 188 (2.6)	34 (1.5) 194 (2.3)	34 (1.4) 190 (2.5)	34 (1.6) 191 (2.1)	31 (1.6) 187 (2.9)
Hispanic						
State	22 (3.8) *** (**.*)	23 (2.8) *** (**.*)	36 (3.2) 212 (4.9)	42 (3.8) 204 (5.7)	42 (3.8) 214 (3.0)	35 (3.7) *** (**.*)
Nation	27 (1.7) 199 (3.4)	25 (1.5) 182 (3.8) <	35 (1.9) 203 (3.2)	34 (1.8) 194 (3.1)	37 (2.1) 201 (3.3)	41 (1.8) 190 (3.3)
TYPE OF LOCATION						
Central City						
State	21 (1.9) 213 (3.5)	22 (2.0) 214 (3.5)	40 (1.5) 221 (2.0)	37 (2.2) 225 (2.6)	39 (2.1) 228 (2.8)	41 (2.0) 223 (3.3)
Nation	26 (1.3) 203 (2.3)	24 (1.7) 197 (2.9)	34 (1.1) 209 (2.0)	34 (1.1) 208 (2.5)	40 (1.4) 210 (1.9)	42 (1.8) 209 (2.8)
Urb Frng/Lrg Town						
State	17 (1.8) 224 (3.3)	17 (1.7) 221 (3.6)	34 (2.1) 225 (2.4)	35 (2.2) 228 (2.5)	49 (3.5) 226 (1.9)	49 (2.4) 226 (1.6)
Nation	23 (1.4) 216 (3.3)	24 (1.4) 216 (2.8)	37 (1.7) 221 (2.2)	34 (1.2) 221 (2.4)	41 (1.8) 222 (2.5)	42 (1.4) 221 (1.9)
Rural/Small Town						
State	19 (2.1) 219 (2.8)	20 (1.9) 226 (2.9)	35 (1.7) 226 (1.9)	34 (1.7) 230 (2.1)	46 (1.8) 225 (2.2)	47 (2.4) 224 (2.0)
Nation	20 (1.8) 212 (4.0)	21 (2.0) 209 (3.7)	32 (1.9) 220 (3.4)	30 (1.6) 213 (3.5)	49 (2.7) 218 (2.2)	49 (2.7) 217 (2.4)

(continued on next page)

TABLE D6.3D (continued)

Public School Students' Reports on Writing About Something They Have Read

	Almost Every Day		At Least Once a Week		Less than Weekly	
	1992	1994	1992	1994	1992	1994
	Percentage and Proficiency					
PARENTS' EDUCATION						
College graduate						
State	21 (1.8) 224 (3.4)	19 (1.5) 228 (2.5)	37 (1.7) 230 (1.9)	38 (1.9) 235 (1.8)	43 (1.9) 236 (2.0)	42 (1.7) 233 (2.8)
Nation	24 (1.2) 218 (2.5)	24 (1.3) 217 (2.3)	36 (1.6) 226 (2.1)	34 (1.1) 225 (1.8)	40 (1.7) 225 (1.9)	42 (1.2) 224 (1.8)
Some ed after HS						
State	16 (2.7) *** (**.*)	19 (2.4) *** (**.*)	40 (3.0) 231 (2.8)	35 (3.5) 228 (3.2)	44 (2.8) 235 (4.0)	46 (3.7) 229 (3.8)
Nation	19 (1.8) 216 (5.1)	23 (2.3) 215 (4.1)	37 (2.9) 221 (3.5)	33 (2.4) 223 (3.3)	44 (2.9) 225 (3.5)	44 (2.5) 226 (3.2)
HS graduate						
State	19 (1.6) 215 (4.0)	21 (2.4) 221 (5.0)	38 (1.8) 218 (1.9)	33 (2.2) 224 (3.4)	44 (2.0) 223 (1.9)	46 (2.5) 223 (2.9)
Nation	25 (2.3) 210 (3.3)	24 (2.1) 206 (4.8)	31 (2.3) 212 (3.3)	36 (1.9) 205 (2.9)	44 (2.3) 212 (2.6)	40 (2.3) 213 (2.6)
HS non-graduate						
State	20 (5.2) *** (**.*)	22 (5.0) *** (**.*)	33 (5.3) *** (**.*)	33 (5.9) *** (**.*)	47 (7.4) *** (**.*)	46 (6.0) *** (**.*)
Nation	26 (3.3) 193 (5.0)	28 (3.5) 186 (5.8)	29 (3.1) 195 (4.9)	34 (3.7) 187 (5.2)	45 (3.6) 206 (4.5)	38 (2.8) 193 (5.1)
I don't know						
State	18 (1.7) 212 (2.9)	19 (1.8) 211 (3.3)	34 (1.3) 219 (2.2)	33 (1.9) 221 (2.0)	48 (1.9) 217 (1.7)	48 (2.2) 217 (1.9)
Nation	22 (1.1) 203 (2.3)	22 (1.2) 198 (1.8)	34 (1.4) 210 (1.4)	31 (1.1) 208 (1.9)	44 (1.7) 213 (1.7)	47 (1.6) 208 (2.2)
GENDER						
Male						
State	19 (1.4) 216 (2.4)	18 (1.3) 217 (2.6)	35 (1.4) 222 (1.8)	33 (1.7) 225 (1.9)	46 (1.5) 223 (1.6)	50 (1.6) 221 (1.7)
Nation	22 (1.2) 206 (2.4)	22 (1.2) 203 (2.6)	33 (1.4) 214 (1.9)	32 (1.0) 209 (1.9)	44 (1.8) 213 (1.4)	46 (1.0) 210 (1.6)
Female						
State	19 (1.6) 221 (2.3)	21 (1.4) 223 (2.8)	38 (1.1) 225 (1.6)	37 (1.5) 230 (1.7)	43 (1.8) 230 (1.5)	41 (1.7) 228 (1.9)
Nation	24 (0.9) 214 (1.9)	25 (1.2) 212 (2.1)	35 (1.1) 220 (1.2)	34 (1.2) 221 (1.6)	41 (1.2) 223 (1.7)	41 (1.3) 223 (1.4)

The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500. The standard errors of the statistics appear in parentheses. It can be said with about 95 percent confidence that, for each population of interest, the value for the entire population is within ± 2 standard errors of the estimate for the sample. In comparing two estimates, one must use the standard error of the difference (see Appendix A for details). If the notation > (<) appears, it signifies that the value for public school students in 1994 was significantly higher (lower) than the value for 1992 at about the 95 percent confidence level. *** Sample size is insufficient to permit a reliable estimate.

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TABLE D6.4A

Public School Teachers' Reports on Discussing New or Difficult Vocabulary

	Almost Every Day		At Least Once a Week		Less than Weekly	
	1992	1994	1992	1994	1992	1994
	Percentage and Proficiency					
TOTAL						
State	55 (3.6) 223 (1.4)	60 (3.8) 223 (1.5)	43 (3.5) 225 (1.5)	38 (3.8) 226 (1.6)	1 (0.7) *** (**.*)	2 (1.0) *** (**.*)
Nation	49 (2.4) 214 (1.8)	62 (2.5) 211 (1.4)	49 (2.3) 218 (1.9)	37 (2.6) 218 (1.5)	2 (0.8) 218 (7.6)!	1 (0.5) *** (**.*)
RACE/ ETHNICITY						
White						
State	54 (3.8) 227 (1.5)	59 (3.9) 228 (1.5)	45 (3.7) 227 (1.5)	38 (3.9) 229 (1.5)	1 (0.8) *** (**.*)	2 (1.1) *** (**.*)
Nation	47 (2.9) 222 (1.9)	61 (2.8) 221 (1.8)	51 (2.9) 224 (2.0)	38 (3.0) 226 (1.7)	2 (0.9) *** (**.*)	1 (0.6) *** (**.*)
Black						
State	70 (7.3) 199 (3.4)	68 (8.7) 194 (3.5)!	30 (7.3) *** (**.*)	32 (8.7) *** (**.*)	0 (0.0) *** (**.*)	0 (0.0) *** (**.*)
Nation	53 (3.9) 194 (2.6)	61 (4.4) 185 (2.4)	45 (3.9) 195 (2.9)	38 (4.2) 190 (2.5)	2 (0.8) *** (**.*)	1 (0.5) *** (**.*)
Hispanic						
State	60 (5.0) 205 (4.8)	65 (5.7) 200 (5.7)	40 (5.0) 216 (4.4)	34 (5.6) *** (**.*)	0 (0.0) *** (**.*)	1 (1.0) *** (**.*)
Nation	63 (4.0) 198 (2.2)	71 (3.3) 189 (2.6)	36 (3.5) 207 (4.1)	29 (3.2) 194 (3.6)	1 (1.1) *** (**.*)	1 (0.4) *** (**.*)
TYPE OF LOCATION						
Central City						
State	63 (5.1) 219 (2.5)	56 (6.7) 216 (2.9)	37 (5.1) 226 (3.4)	42 (6.4) 226 (3.2)	0 (0.0) *** (**.*)	2 (1.3) *** (**.*)
Nation	57 (3.5) 206 (2.6)	66 (3.8) 202 (2.8)	39 (3.6) 210 (2.9)	34 (3.7) 210 (3.6)	4 (2.2) *** (**.*)	0 (0.3) *** (**.*)
Urb Frng/Lrg Town						
State	46 (7.3) 225 (2.6)	60 (8.5) 223 (2.2)	49 (6.8) 223 (2.3)!	36 (8.1) 231 (2.0)!	4 (2.3) *** (**.*)	4 (3.0) *** (**.*)
Nation	46 (3.7) 220 (3.2)	62 (3.0) 218 (2.2)	53 (3.7) 221 (3.1)	36 (3.2) 224 (2.3)	1 (0.8) *** (**.*)	2 (1.2) *** (**.*)
Rural/Small Town						
State	55 (5.9) 224 (2.2)	63 (5.4) 229 (2.1)	45 (5.9) 225 (2.3)	35 (5.3) 222 (1.9)	0 (0.0) *** (**.*)	1 (1.3) *** (**.*)
Nation	47 (6.5) 216 (3.3)	58 (6.6) 211 (2.7)	53 (6.4) 220 (3.3)	42 (6.6) 217 (2.9)	0 (0.4) *** (**.*)	0 (0.4) *** (**.*)

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TABLE D6.4A (continued)

Public School Teachers' Reports on Discussing New or Difficult Vocabulary

	Almost Every Day		At Least Once a Week		Less than Weekly	
	1992	1994	1992	1994	1992	1994
	Percentage and Proficiency					
PARENTS' EDUCATION						
College graduate						
State	58 (3.8) 230 (2.3)	58 (4.3) 232 (1.8)	40 (3.8) 232 (1.9)	40 (4.3) 235 (2.6)	2 (0.9) *** (**.*)	2 (0.9) *** (**.*)
Nation	49 (2.5) 223 (2.5)	61 (3.0) 220 (2.0)	49 (2.6) 225 (2.4)	39 (3.0) 228 (2.1)	2 (1.0) *** (**.*)	1 (0.4) *** (**.*)
Some ed after HS						
State	55 (5.0) 231 (3.0)	66 (5.1) 227 (2.7)	44 (4.9) 232 (2.9)	31 (4.7) 229 (4.6)	0 (0.4) *** (**.*)	3 (2.2) *** (**.*)
Nation	54 (3.6) 219 (3.4)	57 (4.5) 220 (2.8)	45 (3.4) 226 (3.8)	42 (4.5) 224 (3.3)	1 (0.7) *** (**.*)	0 (0.4) *** (**.*)
HS graduate						
State	53 (4.9) ! 217 (2.0)	59 (4.9) 222 (3.6)	46 (4.9) 223 (2.6)	37 (4.6) 224 (2.7)	1 (1.1) *** (**.*)	4 (2.4) *** (**.*)
Nation	45 (4.4) 208 (3.0)	64 (3.2) 205 (2.2)	52 (4.1) 216 (3.1)	35 (3.2) 212 (3.4)	3 (1.3) *** (**.*)	1 (0.9) *** (**.*)
HS non-graduate						
State	53 (7.1) *** (**.*)	72 (6.2) *** (**.*)	47 (7.1) *** (**.*)	28 (6.2) *** (**.*)	0 (0.0) *** (**.*)	0 (0.0) *** (**.*)
Nation	48 (4.7) 193 (4.1)	61 (5.0) 189 (3.9)	51 (4.6) 204 (6.1)	38 (5.0) 187 (5.8)	2 (1.0) *** (**.*)	1 (0.8) *** (**.*)
I don't know						
State	54 (3.7) 216 (1.7)	59 (4.2) 215 (2.0)	45 (3.6) 219 (2.5)	39 (4.2) 218 (2.0)	1 (0.7) *** (**.*)	2 (0.7) *** (**.*)
Nation	50 (2.7) 209 (2.2)	65 (2.5) 204 (1.9)	48 (2.7) 212 (2.1)	34 (2.7) 208 (1.9)	2 (0.8) *** (**.*)	1 (0.7) *** (**.*)
GENDER						
Male						
State	56 (3.6) 220 (1.7)	59 (3.8) 220 (1.7)	43 (3.5) 222 (1.7)	39 (3.7) 222 (1.7)	1 (0.8) *** (**.*)	3 (1.2) *** (**.*)
Nation	51 (2.8) 210 (2.1)	62 (2.6) 206 (1.6)	47 (2.7) 215 (2.4)	36 (2.6) 212 (2.0)	2 (0.8) *** (**.*)	1 (0.6) *** (**.*)
Female						
State	55 (3.8) 225 (1.6)	60 (4.2) 225 (1.9)	44 (3.7) 228 (1.9)	37 (4.1) 230 (2.4)	1 (0.6) *** (**.*)	2 (1.0) *** (**.*)
Nation	48 (2.4) 219 (1.9)	62 (2.6) 216 (1.6)	50 (2.2) 221 (1.9)	37 (2.7) 224 (1.6)	2 (0.7) *** (**.*)	1 (0.4) *** (**.*)

The question associated with this variable was reformatted in 1994. No trend comparison tests were conducted.

The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500. The standard errors of the statistics appear in parentheses. It can be said with about 95 percent confidence that, for each population of interest, the value for the entire population is within ± 2 standard errors of the estimate for the sample. In comparing two estimates, one must use the standard error of the difference (see Appendix A for details). ! Interpret with caution — the nature of the sample does not allow accurate determination of the variability of this statistic. *** Sample size is insufficient to permit a reliable estimate.

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TABLE D6.4B

Public School Students' Reports on Discussing New or Difficult Vocabulary

	Almost Every Day		At Least Once a Week		Less than Weekly	
	1992	1994	1992	1994	1992	1994
	Percentage and Proficiency					
TOTAL						
State	30 (1.2) 225 (1.7)	30 (1.2) 225 (1.6)	42 (1.0) 227 (1.1)	39 (1.3) 228 (1.4)	28 (1.0) 216 (1.6)	31 (1.2) 219 (1.9)
Nation	31 (0.9) 215 (1.4)	32 (0.8) 214 (1.6)	39 (1.0) 220 (1.3)	36 (0.8) 218 (1.4)	30 (0.8) 209 (1.3)	31 (0.8) 207 (1.4)
RACE/ ETHNICITY						
White						
State	29 (1.3) 230 (1.6)	29 (1.3) 230 (1.8)	43 (1.0) 231 (1.1)	40 (1.4) 232 (1.5)	28 (1.1) 220 (1.6)	31 (1.3) 223 (1.9)
Nation	29 (1.0) 224 (1.6)	31 (0.9) 225 (1.7)	39 (1.3) 228 (1.7)	38 (0.9) 227 (1.5)	31 (1.1) 216 (1.6)	31 (1.0) 216 (1.9)
Black						
State	39 (4.2) 205 (5.0)!	43 (4.5) *** (**.*)	36 (4.7) *** (**.*)	23 (3.5) *** (**.*)	26 (2.9) *** (**.*)	34 (2.7) *** (**.*)
Nation	38 (2.1) 195 (2.5)	39 (2.1) 190 (3.0)	34 (1.9) 194 (2.6)	30 (2.0) 189 (3.0)	28 (1.8) 187 (3.0)	31 (1.9) 181 (1.9)
Hispanic						
State	35 (3.3) 209 (5.1)	32 (3.1) *** (**.*)	36 (3.4) 217 (2.3)	34 (3.5) *** (**.*)	29 (3.4) 203 (6.3)	34 (3.7) *** (**.*)
Nation	34 (1.7) 202 (2.8)	33 (1.9) 192 (3.8)	39 (2.1) 203 (2.4)	34 (1.8) 192 (4.2)	27 (1.8) 193 (3.7)	33 (1.5) 184 (2.6)
TYPE OF LOCATION						
Central City						
State	33 (2.6) 224 (3.4)	28 (1.8) 220 (2.9)	42 (2.2) 227 (2.3)	38 (1.9) 226 (2.6)	25 (1.9) 210 (3.2)	34 (1.9) > 217 (3.2)
Nation	33 (1.3) 209 (1.9)	33 (1.8) 206 (3.2)	38 (1.7) 211 (2.0)	34 (1.5) 210 (2.8)	29 (1.4) 201 (2.2)	33 (1.1) 199 (2.8)
Urb Frng/Lrg Town						
State	29 (1.8) 226 (3.1)	27 (2.1) 226 (3.1)	43 (1.5) 228 (1.9)	39 (2.5) 229 (2.0)	28 (1.9) 220 (1.9)	34 (2.3) 222 (2.7)
Nation	28 (1.5) 220 (2.5)	33 (1.1) 221 (2.4)	40 (1.5) 227 (2.5)	37 (1.1) 224 (2.1)	32 (1.3) 212 (2.8)	30 (1.2) 213 (2.5)
Rural/Small Town						
State	28 (1.5) 226 (2.5)	34 (2.4) 229 (2.0)	42 (1.3) 227 (1.8)	39 (2.6) 229 (2.1)	30 (1.5) 218 (2.5)	27 (2.1) 219 (3.2)
Nation	34 (1.4) 217 (3.1)	31 (1.5) 216 (3.4)	37 (2.0) 221 (2.5)	37 (1.6) 219 (2.5)	29 (1.8) 214 (3.0)	32 (1.6) 207 (2.7)

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TABLE D6.4B (continued)

Public School Students' Reports on Discussing New or Difficult Vocabulary

	Almost Every Day		At Least Once a Week		Less than Weekly	
	1992	1994	1992	1994	1992	1994
	Percentage and Proficiency					
PARENTS' EDUCATION						
College graduate						
State	33 (1.8) 233 (2.5)	30 (1.7) 235 (2.6)	42 (1.8) 234 (1.6)	41 (1.6) 236 (2.3)	25 (1.8) 223 (3.0)	29 (1.8) 226 (2.6)
Nation	31 (1.2) 222 (2.2)	33 (1.[illegible]) 224 (2.2)	41 (1.4) 228 (2.0)	38 (1.0) 226 (1.7)	28 (1.2) 219 (2.2)	29 (1.0) 217 (1.9)
Some ed after HS						
State	28 (2.8) 235 (3.2)	33 (3.2) 227 (4.2)	46 (3.7) 234 (2.6)	42 (3.7) 231 (3.2)	27 (2.8) 225 (4.9)	25 (3.6) *** (**.*)
Nation	31 (2.1) 221 (3.3)	35 (2.4) 227 (3.1)	40 (2.7) 224 (3.9)	40 (2.6) 225 (3.3)	29 (2.2) 218 (4.0)	26 (2.6) 212 (3.8)
HS graduate						
State	28 (2.1) 222 (2.3)	31 (2.8) 223 (3.6)	42 (2.5) 223 (2.3)	38 (2.6) 225 (3.8)	30 (2.5) 212 (3.0)	31 (2.3) 220 (4.1)
Nation	33 (2.5) 210 (3.5)	32 (2.0) 205 (3.8)	37 (2.3) 217 (2.9)	35 (2.3) 213 (3.2)	30 (2.3) 206 (2.9)	33 (2.0) 205 (2.8)
HS non-graduate						
State	22 (4.5) *** (**.*)	34 (5.9) *** (**.*)	43 (5.6) *** (**.*)	30 (4.4) *** (**.*)	35 (6.1) *** (**.*)	36 (5.2) *** (**.*)
Nation	28 (3.0) 199 (3.6)	32 (2.9) 192 (6.1)	37 (3.0) 207 (3.9)	35 (3.9) 196 (4.7)	35 (2.9) 188 (5.4)	33 (4.0) 180 (5.9)
I don't know						
State	29 (1.8) 216 (2.6)	27 (1.9) 216 (2.6)	41 (1.6) 221 (2.0)	37 (1.7) 220 (1.7)	30 (1.5) 212 (1.9)	35 (2.1) 214 (2.6)
Nation	31 (1.4) 210 (2.1)	31 (1.3) 206 (1.9)	36 (1.5) 214 (1.5)	34 (1.2) 211 (2.2)	33 (1.4) 203 (1.9)	34 (1.2) 199 (1.8)
GENDER						
Male						
State	27 (1.4) 225 (1.9)	27 (1.4) 223 (2.1)	42 (1.4) 224 (1.8)	38 (1.6) 225 (1.8)	32 (1.6) 214 (1.7)	35 (1.7) 216 (1.9)
Nation	30 (1.0) 211 (2.1)	29 (1.0) 208 (2.3)	38 (1.2) 216 (1.7)	35 (1.0) 213 (2.0)	32 (0.9) 207 (1.8)	35 (1.0) 204 (1.7)
Female						
State	33 (1.6) 226 (2.1)	32 (1.6) 228 (2.3)	43 (1.4) 230 (1.1)	40 (1.6) 231 (1.9)	24 (1.3) 220 (2.0)	28 (1.5) 223 (2.7)
Nation	33 (1.4) 219 (1.4)	36 (1.0) 220 (1.5)	39 (1.5) 225 (1.5)	37 (1.1) 223 (1.4)	28 (1.3) 212 (1.8)	27 (1.0) 211 (1.9)

The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500. The standard errors of the statistics appear in parentheses. It can be said with about 95 percent confidence that, for each population of interest, the value for the entire population is within ± 2 standard errors of the estimate for the sample. In comparing two estimates, one must use the standard error of the difference (see Appendix A for details). If the notation > (<) appears, it signifies that the value for public school students in 1994 was significantly higher (lower) than the value for 1992 at about the 95 percent confidence level. ! Interpret with caution — the nature of the sample does not allow accurate determination of the variability of this statistic. *** Sample size is insufficient to permit a reliable estimate.

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TABLE D6.4C

Public School Teachers' Reports on Asking Students to Talk With Each Other About What They Have Read

	Almost Every Day		At Least Once a Week		Less than Weekly	
	1992	1994	1992	1994	1992	1994
	Percentage and Proficiency					
TOTAL						
State	30 (3.4)	34 (3.3)	52 (3.6)	48 (3.4)	17 (3.3)	18 (2.9)
	222 (2.1)	225 (2.0)	224 (1.3)	224 (1.6)	226 (2.9)!	223 (2.3)
Nation	32 (2.6)	34 (2.5)	49 (3.0)	48 (2.5)	19 (2.7)	18 (1.8)
	215 (2.2)	211 (2.2)	218 (1.7)	215 (1.5)	213 (2.9)	215 (2.9)
RACE/ ETHNICITY						
White						
State	31 (3.7)	35 (3.5)	51 (3.9)	48 (3.7)	18 (3.6)	18 (3.0)
	225 (1.8)	229 (1.7)	228 (1.4)	228 (1.6)	229 (2.5)!	227 (2.2)
Nation	31 (2.8)	32 (2.9)	50 (3.5)	50 (2.9)	19 (3.2)	18 (2.2)
	222 (2.4)	222 (2.2)	225 (1.8)	223 (1.7)	221 (3.2)	225 (2.6)
Black						
State	32 (6.3)	24 (5.8)	48 (8.9)	62 (5.8)	20 (9.0)	13 (4.4)
	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	201 (3.5)!	194 (4.5)!	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)
Nation	37 (3.8)	40 (5.0)	43 (4.0)	40 (4.7)	20 (3.6)	20 (2.8)
	191 (2.8)	183 (3.0)	198 (3.3)	188 (2.9)	190 (3.5)	190 (4.2)
Hispanic						
State	27 (4.8)	36 (6.6)	63 (4.8)	44 (6.8)	11 (3.0)	20 (4.4)
	*** (**.*)	197 (9.4)!	211 (4.2)	207 (4.2)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)
Nation	32 (3.1)	35 (4.0)	48 (3.2)	49 (4.1)	20 (2.4)	16 (2.2)
	203 (3.3)	188 (4.4)	202 (3.9)	192 (2.4)	198 (4.3)	189 (5.9)
TYPE OF LOCATION						
Central City						
State	39 (4.9)	35 (6.1)	47 (5.4)	50 (4.8)	15 (4.8)	14 (4.7)
	218 (3.3)	222 (4.3)	223 (3.6)	219 (3.0)	229 (6.5)!	222 (5.8)!
Nation	36 (3.4)	37 (5.0)	48 (3.9)	41 (4.0)	16 (2.4)	22 (3.2)
	213 (2.4)	202 (5.3)	208 (3.0)	207 (3.2)	197 (3.8)	204 (4.6)
Urb Frng/Lrg Town						
State	33 (7.0)	33 (5.0)	54 (6.4)	50 (6.1)	13 (5.3)	16 (5.8)
	224 (3.0)	226 (2.8)	226 (2.2)	226 (2.6)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)
Nation	29 (4.3)	37 (3.1)	53 (4.1)	47 (3.5)	18 (3.4)	16 (2.9)
	216 (5.4)	218 (2.9)	224 (2.4)	220 (2.2)	219 (4.5)!	227 (3.6)
Rural/Small Town						
State	22 (5.9)	33 (6.1)	55 (5.6)	44 (6.7)	23 (5.9)	23 (3.9)
	224 (3.2)!	228 (3.4)	224 (2.4)	227 (2.0)	227 (3.4)!	222 (2.8)!
Nation	31 (5.9)	25 (5.5)	44 (7.0)	60 (5.9)	25 (7.0)	15 (3.4)
	214 (3.3)!	209 (3.3)!	222 (3.5)	215 (2.3)	218 (4.1)!	214 (5.3)!

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TABLE D6.4C (continued)

Public School Teachers' Reports on Asking Students to Talk With Each Other About What They Have Read

	Almost Every Day		At Least Once a Week		Less than Weekly	
	1992	1994	1992	1994	1992	1994
	Percentage and Proficiency					
PARENTS' EDUCATION						
College graduate						
State	32 (3.6) 228 (3.1)	37 (3.4) 235 (2.2)	50 (3.7) 232 (1.7)	47 (3.6) 232 (2.3)	18 (3.6) 234 (3.6)!	16 (3.1) 230 (4.2)
Nation	33 (3.2) 224 (3.6)	36 (2.9) 224 (2.3)	49 (3.6) 225 (2.4)	46 (2.7) 223 (1.8)	18 (3.0) 221 (3.8)	17 (2.2) 224 (3.7)
Some ed after HS						
State	31 (5.1) 232 (4.0)	32 (3.7) *** (**.*)	49 (5.1) 232 (3.2)	56 (4.9) 227 (3.2)	20 (5.7) *** (**.*)	13 (3.8) *** (**.*)
Nation	31 (3.6) 217 (4.9)	27 (3.3) 217 (4.8)	49 (4.4) 227 (3.1)	54 (4.0) 222 (2.9)	19 (3.9) *** (**.*)	19 (3.2) 229 (4.1)
HS graduate						
State	26 (4.0) 216 (3.2)	28 (3.8) 221 (4.1)	54 (4.4) 220 (2.5)	50 (4.3) 225 (3.1)	19 (4.1) 225 (4.2)!	22 (3.6) 222 (4.0)
Nation	35 (4.3) 208 (3.0)	30 (2.9) 202 (4.1)	44 (4.3) 215 (3.0)	49 (3.1) 208 (2.5)	21 (3.5) 214 (4.6)	21 (2.8) 215 (5.2)
HS non-graduate						
State	32 (7.0) *** (**.*)	37 (6.1) *** (**.*)	49 (8.1) *** (**.*)	49 (5.5) *** (**.*)	19 (6.4) *** (**.*)	14 (4.6) *** (**.*)
Nation	30 (4.9) 189 (6.6)!	27 (3.3) 185 (4.5)	46 (4.4) 200 (4.5)	52 (3.3) 192 (4.9)	23 (3.4) *** (**.*)	21 (3.7) *** (**.*)
I don't know						
State	30 (3.5) 215 (2.5)	34 (4.0) 217 (2.5)	54 (3.8) 218 (1.9)	46 (3.7) 216 (2.7)	15 (3.0) 218 (4.9)!	20 (3.4) 217 (3.0)
Nation	30 (2.6) 209 (2.1)	35 (2.9) 200 (2.6)	50 (3.2) 213 (2.1)	48 (3.0) 210 (1.9)	19 (2.8) 207 (3.2)	17 (1.9) 206 (4.1)
GENDER						
Male						
State	32 (3.5) 218 (2.3)	35 (3.5) 222 (2.4)	52 (3.7) 221 (1.6)	48 (3.6) 220 (1.8)	16 (3.3) 225 (3.2)!	17 (3.2) 222 (2.7)
Nation	32 (2.7) 211 (3.1)	35 (2.7) 208 (2.2)	49 (3.2) 215 (2.1)	47 (2.7) 208 (1.7)	19 (2.8) 209 (3.2)	18 (1.8) 207 (3.7)
Female						
State	29 (3.3) 225 (2.5)	33 (3.3) 228 (2.4)	53 (3.6) 227 (1.7)	48 (3.4) 228 (2.2)	18 (3.5) 228 (3.4)!	18 (2.9) 224 (3.3)
Nation	31 (2.6) 218 (2.1)	33 (2.5) 214 (2.7)	49 (3.0) 223 (2.0)	49 (2.5) 221 (1.6)	19 (2.7) 217 (3.4)	18 (2.0) 223 (2.7)

The question associated with this variable was reformatted in 1994. No trend comparison tests were conducted.

The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500. The standard errors of the statistics appear in parentheses. It can be said with about 95 percent confidence that, for each population of interest, the value for the entire population is within ± 2 standard errors of the estimate for the sample. In comparing two estimates, one must use the standard error of the difference (see Appendix A for details). ! Interpret with caution — the nature of the sample does not allow accurate determination of the variability of this statistic. *** Sample size is insufficient to permit a reliable estimate.

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TABLE D6.4D

Public School Students' Reports on Talking With Each Other About What They Have Read

	Almost Every Day	At Least Once a Week	Less than Weekly
	1994	1994	1994
	Percentage and Proficiency		
TOTAL			
State	15 (0.7) 218 (2.3)	32 (1.2) 225 (1.6)	53 (1.3) 226 (1.2)
Nation	17 (0.7) 202 (2.0)	30 (0.6) 213 (1.4)	53 (0.9) 218 (1.3)
RACE/ ETHNICITY			
White			
State	14 (0.7) 225 (2.3)	32 (1.4) 228 (1.7)	54 (1.5) 229 (1.3)
Nation	14 (0.7) 218 (2.5)	30 (0.7) 222 (1.8)	56 (1.2) 225 (1.3)
Black			
State	29 (4.7) *** (**.*)	26 (3.2) *** (**.*)	45 (3.9) *** (**.*)
Nation	27 (1.4) 178 (2.7)	29 (1.0) 188 (2.8)	44 (1.6) 193 (2.4)
Hispanic			
State	22 (3.1) *** (**.*)	31 (2.9) *** (**.*)	48 (3.8) 209 (4.6)
Nation	23 (2.3) 181 (4.5)	32 (1.9) 190 (3.4)	45 (2.5) 194 (3.0)
TYPE OF LOCATION			
Central City			
State	17 (1.3) 212 (4.2)	33 (2.5) 223 (2.8)	49 (2.6) 224 (2.4)
Nation	19 (1.1) 192 (2.8)	29 (1.1) 203 (2.5)	52 (1.2) 211 (2.7)
Urb Frng/Lrg Town			
State	14 (1.3) 220 (2.9)	29 (1.9) 228 (3.3)	58 (2.4) 226 (2.4)
Nation	16 (1.2) 211 (4.1)	30 (1.2) 218 (2.3)	54 (1.8) 223 (1.7)
Rural/Small Town			
State	15 (1.3) 221 (4.6)	33 (1.7) 226 (2.3)	52 (1.8) 228 (1.5)
Nation	17 (1.2) 202 (3.6)	31 (1.0) 215 (3.0)	52 (1.7) 218 (2.2)

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TABLE D6.4D (continued)

Public School Students' Reports on Talking With Each Other About What They Have Read

	Almost Every Day	At Least Once a Week	Less than Weekly
	1994	1994	1994
	Percentage and Proficiency		
PARENTS' EDUCATION			
College graduate			
State	17 (1.3) 226 (2.9)	33 (2.1) 232 (2.1)	50 (2.0) 236 (2.2)
Nation	17 (0.8) 210 (2.9)	31 (1.1) 224 (1.8)	52 (1.4) 227 (1.8)
Some ed after HS			
State	15 (2.7) *** (**.*)	37 (3.3) 226 (3.5)	48 (3.2) 232 (4.2)
Nation	15 (1.6) 211 (4.8)	31 (2.3) 221 (2.9)	54 (2.5) 227 (3.0)
HS graduate			
State	17 (1.9) *** (**.*)	33 (2.6) 222 (3.6)	49 (2.6) 225 (2.9)
Nation	20 (1.8) 202 (3.8)	29 (1.9) 205 (3.5)	51 (1.9) 212 (2.6)
HS non-graduate			
State	12 (3.6) *** (**.*)	34 (5.4) *** (**.*)	54 (5.8) *** (**.*)
Nation	20 (2.4) *** (**.*)	31 (3.7) 191 (7.1)	49 (3.7) 193 (4.3)
I don't know			
State	14 (1.0) 205 (4.2)	28 (1.6) 221 (3.0)	59 (2.1) 218 (1.8)
Nation	18 (1.2) 195 (2.9)	28 (1.1) 202 (2.2)	54 (1.7) 210 (1.7)
GENDER			
Male			
State	14 (1.0) 217 (2.8)	29 (1.7) 221 (2.2)	56 (1.8) 223 (1.5)
Nation	16 (0.7) 196 (2.8)	27 (1.1) 206 (1.9)	56 (1.1) 213 (1.5)
Female			
State	16 (1.2) 218 (3.1)	34 (1.5) 229 (2.1)	50 (1.5) 230 (1.8)
Nation	19 (1.0) 207 (2.2)	33 (0.8) 218 (1.6)	49 (1.4) 224 (1.4)

The 1992 data are not reported for this variable due to a rewording of the question for the 1994 assessment.

The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500. The standard errors of the statistics appear in parentheses. It can be said with about 95 percent confidence that, for each population of interest, the value for the entire population is within ± 2 standard errors of the estimate for the sample. In comparing two estimates, one must use the standard error of the difference (see Appendix A for details). *** Sample size is insufficient to permit a reliable estimate.

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TABLE D6.4E

Public School Teachers' Reports on Asking Students to Do a Group Activity or Project About What They Have Read

	Almost Every Day		At Least Once a Week		Less than Weekly	
	1992	1994	1992	1994	1992	1994
	Percentage and Proficiency					
TOTAL						
State	6 (1.5) 225 (3.6)!	5 (1.5) 228 (5.3)!	21 (2.7) 222 (2.2)	41 (3.3) 225 (1.4)	73 (3.0) 224 (1.1)	55 (3.1) 223 (1.7)
Nation	3 (0.8) 220 (4.5)!	5 (1.1) 207 (5.5)!	21 (2.4) 218 (2.3)	28 (2.4) 214 (2.0)	76 (2.5) 215 (1.5)	67 (2.3) 214 (1.3)
RACE/ ETHNICITY						
White						
State	6 (1.6) 225 (3.9)!	5 (1.7) 230 (6.3)!	22 (2.8) 224 (2.5)	41 (3.5) 229 (1.3)	72 (3.2) 229 (1.1)	54 (3.3) 228 (1.6)
Nation	3 (0.9) 229 (4.4)!	4 (1.2) 221 (5.8)!	21 (2.7) 225 (2.7)	29 (3.2) 222 (2.4)	75 (3.0) 222 (1.7)	67 (3.0) 223 (1.4)
Black						
State	2 (1.4) *** (**.*)	1 (1.0) *** (**.*)	15 (4.4) *** (**.*)	46 (7.3) *** (**.*)	83 (4.9) 198 (2.8)	53 (7.2) *** (**.*)
Nation	2 (1.2) *** (**.*)	4 (1.5) *** (**.*)	20 (3.7) 195 (3.7)!	23 (2.2) 183 (3.9)	77 (3.7) 194 (2.1)	73 (2.5) 188 (1.8)
Hispanic						
State	6 (2.6) *** (**.*)	3 (1.9) *** (**.*)	20 (4.1) *** (**.*)	32 (4.9) *** (**.*)	74 (4.6) 208 (5.0)	65 (4.8) 204 (4.6)
Nation	5 (1.7) *** (**.*)	7 (1.9) *** (**.*)	18 (3.1) 204 (5.1)!	27 (2.4) 194 (3.8)	77 (3.3) 201 (2.6)	66 (2.6) 190 (2.6)
TYPE OF LOCATION						
Central City						
State	4 (2.5) *** (**.*)	4 (2.0) *** (**.*)	21 (3.6) 222 (3.8)!	35 (4.5) 219 (3.0)	74 (4.2) 222 (3.0)	61 (4.7) 221 (3.2)
Nation	7 (2.0) 226 (5.3)!	6 (2.2) 199 (6.8)!	17 (2.5) 207 (3.6)	22 (3.4) 208 (5.2)	76 (2.5) 207 (2.5)	72 (3.6) 204 (2.6)
Urb Frng/Lrg Town						
State	5 (2.7) *** (**.*)	4 (2.4) *** (**.*)	28 (5.3) 225 (2.8)!	47 (6.0) 228 (2.1)	67 (6.0) 225 (2.0)	49 (5.8) 224 (2.8)
Nation	2 (0.8) *** (**.*)	5 (1.7) 215 (9.2)!	22 (3.2) 221 (3.2)	30 (3.5) 220 (2.2)	77 (3.4) 221 (2.7)	65 (3.2) 221 (1.9)
Rural/Small Town						
State	7 (2.4) *** (**.*)	7 (3.2) *** (**.*)	17 (4.6) 219 (4.8)!	40 (6.4) 226 (2.3)	76 (5.1) 226 (1.9)	53 (5.8) 226 (2.1)
Nation	2 (1.2) *** (**.*)	2 (1.1) *** (**.*)	24 (5.6) 223 (4.4)!	32 (6.2) 210 (2.4)!	75 (6.4) 217 (2.9)	66 (6.1) 215 (2.6)

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TABLE D6.4E (continued)

Public School Teachers' Reports on Asking Students to Do a Group Activity or Project About What They Have Read

	Almost Every Day		At Least Once a Week		Less than Weekly	
	1992	1994	1992	1994	1992	1994
	Percentage and Proficiency					
PARENTS' EDUCATION						
College graduate						
State	6 (1.7) *** (**.*)	6 (1.9) *** (**.*)	21 (2.7) 230 (2.4)	39 (3.3) 233 (1.9)	73 (3.0) 232 (1.8)	55 (3.4) 232 (2.4)
Nation	3 (0.8) *** (**.*)	4 (1.0) 216 (6.3)!	19 (2.6) 224 (3.3)	30 (3.0) 225 (2.3)	78 (2.7) 224 (2.1)	66 (2.9) 223 (1.7)
Some ed after HS						
State	7 (2.2) *** (**.*)	4 (1.9) *** (**.*)	23 (3.9) *** (**.*)	41 (4.9) 226 (3.4)	70 (4.5) 231 (2.7)	55 (5.2) 228 (3.8)
Nation	4 (1.1) *** (**.*)	5 (1.6) *** (**.*)	24 (3.8) 219 (5.8)	25 (4.1) 220 (4.0)	72 (3.8) 222 (2.3)	70 (3.9) 223 (2.4)
HS graduate						
State	5 (1.9) *** (**.*)	3 (1.6) *** (**.*)	21 (3.5) 218 (3.2)	47 (4.8) 223 (3.4)	74 (3.9) 221 (1.7)	50 (4.3) 222 (3.1)
Nation	4 (1.5) *** (**.*)	6 (1.6) *** (**.*)	20 (2.8) 214 (4.8)	25 (3.1) 205 (4.4)	76 (3.1) 212 (2.5)	69 (3.1) 208 (2.3)
HS non-graduate						
State	13 (5.1) *** (**.*)	6 (3.1) *** (**.*)	19 (6.7) *** (**.*)	46 (6.1) *** (**.*)	69 (7.3) *** (**.*)	48 (6.7) *** (**.*)
Nation	4 (1.5) *** (**.*)	4 (1.7) *** (**.*)	15 (4.3) *** (**.*)	29 (4.7) 187 (6.3)!	81 (4.4) 200 (3.8)	67 (4.6) 189 (4.1)
I don't know						
State	5 (1.4) *** (**.*)	5 (1.7) *** (**.*)	22 (3.2) 214 (2.8)	39 (3.8) 218 (2.2)	73 (3.5) 217 (1.5)	56 (3.7) 215 (2.1)
Nation	3 (0.9) *** (**.*)	5 (1.1) 200 (5.9)!	23 (2.9) 217 (3.1)	27 (2.4) 205 (2.9)	74 (3.1) 208 (1.7)	69 (2.3) 206 (1.5)
GENDER						
Male						
State	6 (1.6) 221 (3.4)!	5 (1.6) *** (**.*)	21 (2.8) 220 (2.8)	39 (3.2) 222 (1.9)	73 (3.1) 221 (1.4)	56 (3.2) 220 (1.7)
Nation	3 (0.9) 217 (5.6)!	5 (1.1) 202 (6.6)!	21 (2.8) 215 (2.7)	28 (2.5) 207 (2.0)	75 (2.9) 211 (1.7)	67 (2.4) 208 (1.6)
Female						
State	6 (1.5) 229 (4.8)!	5 (1.5) *** (**.*)	22 (2.8) 224 (2.5)	42 (3.6) 227 (1.8)	72 (3.1) 227 (1.5)	54 (3.3) 227 (2.4)
Nation	3 (0.8) 223 (4.8)!	5 (1.2) 213 (5.3)!	20 (2.2) 221 (2.9)	28 (2.6) 221 (2.7)	76 (2.3) 220 (1.6)	68 (2.4) 219 (1.3)

The question associated with this variable was reformatted in 1994. No trend comparison tests were conducted.

The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500. The standard errors of the statistics appear in parentheses. It can be said with about 95 percent confidence that, for each population of interest, the value for the entire population is within ± 2 standard errors of the estimate for the sample. In comparing two estimates, one must use the standard error of the difference (see Appendix A for details). ! Interpret with caution — the nature of the sample does not allow accurate determination of the variability of this statistic. *** Sample size is insufficient to permit a reliable estimate.

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TABLE D6.4F

Public School Students' Reports on Doing a Group Activity or Project About What They Have Read

	Almost Every Day	At Least Once a Week	Less than Weekly
	1994	1994	1994
	Percentage and Proficiency		
TOTAL			
State	11 (0.6) 213 (2.4)	28 (1.2) 222 (1.6)	61 (1.4) 229 (1.2)
Nation	15 (0.6) 198 (1.9)	24 (0.7) 209 (1.4)	61 (0.9) 220 (1.2)
RACE/ ETHNICITY			
White			
State	9 (0.6) 220 (2.2)	28 (1.4) 226 (1.7)	63 (1.6) 231 (1.3)
Nation	12 (0.6) 210 (2.7)	23 (0.8) 220 (1.7)	65 (0.9) 227 (1.4)
Black			
State	27 (3.5) *** (**.*)	39 (4.9) *** (**.*)	34 (4.4) *** (**.*)
Nation	25 (1.3) 181 (2.9)	27 (1.5) 187 (3.0)	47 (1.7) 193 (2.3)
Hispanic			
State	19 (2.8) *** (**.*)	33 (3.4) *** (**.*)	48 (3.9) 211 (4.2)
Nation	19 (1.8) 179 (4.9)	30 (1.8) 186 (3.8)	51 (2.3) 197 (3.0)
TYPE OF LOCATION			
Central City			
State	13 (1.5) 206 (5.2)	31 (1.8) 221 (2.9)	55 (2.5) 227 (2.3)
Nation	17 (1.0) 189 (2.8)	26 (1.2) 201 (3.0)	58 (1.5) 213 (2.6)
Urb Frng/Lrg Town			
State	9 (0.7) 218 (4.1)	25 (2.0) 221 (3.0)	66 (2.2) 230 (2.0)
Nation	14 (1.1) 207 (3.9)	23 (1.0) 216 (2.4)	63 (1.4) 225 (2.0)
Rural/Small Town			
State	11 (1.0) 217 (3.0)	29 (2.2) 223 (2.3)	61 (2.5) 230 (1.9)
Nation	14 (0.9) 197 (3.8)	25 (1.3) 210 (2.8)	61 (1.3) 220 (2.1)

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TABLE D6.4F (continued)

Public School Students' Reports on Doing a Group Activity or Project About What They Have Read

	Almost Every Day	At Least Once a Week	Less than Weekly
	1994	1994	1994
	Percentage and Proficiency		
PARENTS' EDUCATION			
College graduate			
State	11 (0.9)	28 (1.3)	61 (1.7)
	219 (3.3)	230 (2.0)	237 (2.1)
Nation	14 (0.8)	24 (1.3)	62 (1.2)
	207 (2.4)	219 (2.3)	229 (1.7)
Some ed after HS			
State	6 (1.6)	32 (3.1)	62 (3.3)
	*** (**.*)	226 (3.9)	231 (3.5)
Nation	14 (1.7)	27 (2.3)	58 (2.7)
	214 (5.1)	220 (3.4)	227 (2.9)
HS graduate			
State	11 (1.6)	28 (3.2)	61 (3.5)
	*** (**.*)	221 (4.4)	226 (2.3)
Nation	14 (1.3)	27 (1.6)	59 (1.8)
	194 (5.5)	206 (2.9)	213 (2.3)
HS non-graduate			
State	13 (4.0)	26 (4.9)	60 (5.5)
	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)
Nation	22 (3.2)	26 (3.1)	52 (3.3)
	*** (**.*)	181 (4.9)	194 (5.4)
I don't know			
State	12 (1.0)	29 (1.7)	60 (2.0)
	209 (3.9)	213 (2.5)	221 (1.7)
Nation	15 (1.0)	23 (1.1)	62 (1.5)
	189 (3.7)	201 (2.0)	213 (1.4)
GENDER			
Male			
State	10 (0.9)	28 (1.5)	62 (1.7)
	210 (3.0)	218 (2.0)	225 (1.4)
Nation	14 (0.7)	24 (0.9)	62 (1.0)
	193 (3.0)	203 (2.0)	215 (1.4)
Female			
State	12 (1.0)	29 (1.7)	59 (2.1)
	216 (3.5)	225 (2.4)	232 (1.7)
Nation	15 (0.8)	25 (0.9)	60 (1.2)
	203 (2.3)	216 (1.7)	225 (1.4)

The 1992 data are not reported for this variable due to a rewording of the question for the 1994 assessment.

The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500. The standard errors of the statistics appear in parentheses. It can be said with about 95 percent confidence that, for each population of interest, the value for the entire population is within ± 2 standard errors of the estimate for the sample. In comparing two estimates, one must use the standard error of the difference (see Appendix A for details). *** Sample size is insufficient to permit a reliable estimate.

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TABLE D6.5A

Public School Teachers' Reports on Asking Students to Read Aloud

	Almost Every Day		At Least Once a Week		Less than Weekly	
	1992	1994	1992	1994	1992	1994
	Percentage and Proficiency					
TOTAL						
State	38 (3.4)	45 (3.2)	55 (3.5)	45 (3.1)	7 (1.7)	11 (1.7)
	220 (1.8)	223 (1.8)	226 (1.3)	224 (1.4)	226 (3.2)!	228 (3.6)
Nation	47 (2.9)	57 (2.4)	45 (2.5)	38 (2.3)	8 (1.7)	5 (1.1)
	212 (1.6)	210 (1.5)	220 (1.8)	217 (1.6)	222 (4.1)!	228 (5.0)!
RACE/ ETHNICITY						
White						
State	38 (3.9)	44 (3.5)	55 (4.0)	45 (3.4)	7 (1.9)	11 (1.8)
	224 (1.7)	228 (1.8)	229 (1.3)	228 (1.4)	229 (2.7)!	232 (3.1)
Nation	44 (3.3)	55 (2.7)	48 (2.9)	39 (2.5)	8 (2.0)	5 (1.3)
	220 (2.0)	221 (1.8)	225 (2.1)	224 (1.6)	228 (4.0)!	234 (4.4)!
Black						
State	39 (6.5)	59 (12.4)	54 (8.1)	36 (12.5)	7 (4.1)	5 (3.0)
	196 (4.0)!	198 (5.3)!	203 (4.1)!	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)
Nation	58 (4.3)	63 (4.2)	35 (4.0)	35 (4.1)	6 (2.3)	3 (1.2)
	193 (2.3)	182 (2.6)	195 (3.1)	192 (2.2)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)
Hispanic						
State	42 (4.7)	43 (5.7)	56 (4.7)	45 (5.9)	2 (1.5)	12 (4.2)
	202 (5.7)	201 (7.5)	214 (3.5)	203 (4.9)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)
Nation	60 (3.6)	59 (4.0)	34 (3.0)	35 (3.7)	6 (2.2)	6 (1.6)
	198 (2.5)	187 (2.8)	206 (3.1)	194 (2.7)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)
TYPE OF LOCATION						
Central City						
State	38 (4.9)	49 (5.5)	53 (6.1)	34 (5.0)	9 (3.5)	17 (3.2)
	218 (3.3)	219 (3.4)	224 (2.8)	220 (3.5)	*** (**.*)	226 (5.5)!
Nation	53 (3.2)	58 (4.3)	40 (3.0)	37 (3.8)	8 (3.0)	5 (1.8)
	207 (2.7)	200 (3.1)	209 (3.2)	210 (3.4)	211 (4.5)!	222 (5.1)!
Urb Frng/Lrg Town						
State	37 (6.2)	45 (4.2)	53 (5.5)	44 (4.8)	10 (3.7)	12 (3.6)
	223 (3.4)!	226 (2.7)	225 (1.9)	224 (2.3)	*** (**.*)	234 (5.0)!
Nation	38 (4.6)	54 (4.1)	54 (4.4)	41 (3.9)	9 (2.5)	5 (1.8)
	216 (3.3)	217 (2.2)	224 (2.8)	222 (1.9)	224 (5.5)!	235 (10.0)!
Rural/Small Town						
State	39 (6.6)	41 (6.1)	58 (6.8)	55 (6.0)	3 (1.9)	4 (1.6)
	220 (2.5)	226 (3.0)	228 (1.9)	227 (2.1)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)
Nation	55 (5.3)	60 (5.5)	39 (4.1)	36 (5.2)	7 (3.4)	5 (2.0)
	213 (2.9)	212 (2.5)	223 (3.4)	215 (3.4)	231 (10.0)!	*** (**.*)

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TABLE D6.5A (continued)

Public School Teachers' Reports on Asking Students to Read Aloud

	Almost Every Day		At Least Once a Week		Less than Weekly	
	1992	1994	1992	1994	1992	1994
	Percentage and Proficiency					
PARENTS' EDUCATION						
College graduate						
State	36 (3.7) 229 (3.1)	43 (3.6) 232 (2.2)	57 (3.6) 233 (1.8)	44 (3.4) 233 (2.0)	7 (1.6) *** (**.*)	13 (2.3) 236 (5.0)
Nation	46 (3.3) 218 (2.1)	53 (2.7) 220 (2.0)	45 (2.6) 229 (2.5)	41 (2.6) 225 (1.9)	9 (2.2) 230 (5.8)!	6 (1.5) 238 (5.5)!
Some ed after HS						
State	40 (4.7) 229 (3.2)	46 (5.5) 228 (3.3)	56 (4.8) 233 (2.5)	47 (4.9) 227 (3.8)	4 (1.4) *** (**.*)	8 (2.9) *** (**.*)
Nation	45 (3.8) 218 (3.6)	56 (3.6) 220 (3.0)	46 (3.4) 225 (3.6)	40 (3.4) 224 (2.9)	8 (2.8) *** (**.*)	4 (1.1) *** (**.*)
HS graduate						
State	42 (4.5) 216 (3.1)	45 (4.7) 225 (3.3)	51 (4.9) 222 (1.9)	47 (4.5) 221 (3.4)	7 (2.1) *** (**.*)	8 (1.9) *** (**.*)
Nation	51 (3.9) 210 (2.6)	62 (3.0) 205 (2.0)	42 (3.6) 214 (3.2)	34 (3.1) 211 (4.0)	7 (2.2) *** (**.*)	4 (1.1) *** (**.*)
HS non-graduate						
State	43 (7.1) *** (**.*)	45 (6.2) *** (**.*)	47 (6.8) *** (**.*)	44 (6.0) *** (**.*)	10 (3.7) *** (**.*)	10 (4.5) *** (**.*)
Nation	46 (6.1) 193 (3.9)	57 (4.0) 187 (4.9)	50 (5.6) 204 (4.7)	37 (3.7) 189 (7.3)	4 (2.2) *** (**.*)	6 (2.2) *** (**.*)
I don't know						
State	37 (3.6) 212 (2.3)	46 (3.2) 216 (2.5)	55 (3.9) 220 (2.1)	44 (3.3) 217 (2.2)	8 (2.2) 220 (3.4)!	10 (1.8) 219 (5.3)
Nation	48 (3.4) 207 (2.2)	59 (2.7) 202 (1.8)	44 (3.0) 213 (1.8)	36 (2.6) 209 (2.1)	7 (1.7) 216 (6.0)!	4 (1.0) 217 (5.2)!
GENDER						
Male						
State	39 (3.4) 217 (2.2)	45 (3.4) 220 (2.1)	54 (3.7) 223 (1.6)	44 (3.1) 222 (1.7)	7 (1.8) 226 (4.3)!	11 (1.7) 221 (3.5)
Nation	48 (3.1) 209 (2.0)	57 (2.4) 204 (1.6)	45 (2.6) 215 (2.1)	38 (2.3) 212 (2.1)	7 (1.8) 219 (4.1)!	5 (1.0) 224 (4.9)!
Female						
State	38 (3.6) 223 (1.9)	44 (3.4) 226 (2.3)	55 (3.7) 229 (1.6)	46 (3.5) 226 (1.6)	7 (1.7) 227 (4.5)!	10 (1.8) 234 (4.7)
Nation	47 (3.0) 215 (1.7)	57 (2.6) 216 (1.8)	45 (2.6) 224 (2.0)	38 (2.4) 221 (1.9)	8 (1.8) 225 (5.3)!	5 (1.2) 231 (5.4)!

The question associated with this variable was reformatted in 1994. No trend comparison tests were conducted.

The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500. The standard errors of the statistics appear in parentheses. It can be said with about 95 percent confidence that, for each population of interest, the value for the entire population is within ± 2 standard errors of the estimate for the sample. In comparing two estimates, one must use the standard error of the difference (see Appendix A for details). ! Interpret with caution — the nature of the sample does not allow accurate determination of the variability of this statistic. *** Sample size is insufficient to permit a reliable estimate.

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TABLE D6.5B

Public School Students' Reports on Reading Aloud

	Almost Every Day	At Least Once a Week	Less than Weekly
	1994	1994	1994
	Percentage and Proficiency		
TOTAL			
State	36 (1.7) 225 (1.6)	35 (1.3) 228 (1.3)	29 (1.5) 223 (1.7)
Nation	45 (1.2) 215 (1.3)	30 (0.8) 218 (1.4)	25 (1.0) 209 (1.9)
RACE/ ETHNICITY			
White			
State	34 (1.9) 229 (1.5)	36 (1.4) 230 (1.3)	30 (1.7) 227 (1.6)
Nation	44 (1.4) 225 (1.6)	31 (0.9) 226 (1.6)	25 (1.3) 219 (2.1)
Black			
State	45 (4.1) *** (**.*)	29 (4.2) *** (**.*)	27 (3.8) *** (**.*)
Nation	53 (2.3) 192 (2.3)	25 (1.9) 187 (2.8)	22 (1.6) 181 (3.4)
Hispanic			
State	42 (4.2) 206 (5.2)	35 (3.2) *** (**.*)	23 (3.3) *** (**.*)
Nation	43 (1.7) 192 (3.1)	27 (1.3) 193 (4.5)	30 (1.5) 183 (3.7)
TYPE OF LOCATION			
Central City			
State	38 (2.4) 218 (3.2)	32 (1.5) 229 (2.7)	30 (2.4) 221 (3.2)
Nation	47 (1.9) 208 (2.8)	29 (1.6) 212 (2.4)	24 (1.5) 196 (3.7)
Urb Frng/Lrg Town			
State	29 (3.1) 229 (2.5)	40 (3.2) 227 (2.0)	31 (3.2) 223 (2.9)
Nation	44 (1.5) 221 (2.2)	31 (1.2) 223 (2.4)	25 (1.3) 216 (3.4)
Rural/Small Town			
State	39 (3.2) 228 (2.1)	35 (2.1) 228 (2.2)	27 (2.7) 225 (2.6)
Nation	45 (3.0) 215 (2.8)	28 (1.6) 216 (3.2)	27 (2.7) 213 (2.6)

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TABLE D6.5B (continued)

Public School Students' Reports on Reading Aloud

	Almost Every Day	At Least Once a Week	Less than Weekly
	1994	1994	1994
	Percentage and Proficiency		
PARENTS' EDUCATION			
College graduate			
State	34 (2.5) 233 (2.2)	35 (1.8) 235 (2.2)	31 (2.4) 233 (2.6)
Nation	46 (1.5) 224 (2.1)	30 (1.0) 228 (1.7)	24 (1.3) 219 (2.6)
Some ed after HS			
State	37 (3.5) 230 (3.7)	38 (3.1) 230 (3.7)	25 (3.3) *** (**.*)
Nation	45 (2.7) 223 (2.7)	30 (2.2) 229 (2.9)	26 (2.3) 217 (4.3)
HS graduate			
State	43 (3.2) 224 (3.4)	33 (3.4) 225 (3.4)	24 (2.3) 220 (3.9)
Nation	48 (1.9) 211 (2.6)	28 (1.7) 210 (2.9)	23 (1.8) 203 (4.4)
HS non-graduate			
State	40 (4.7) *** (**.*)	27 (5.3) *** (**.*)	33 (5.2) *** (**.*)
Nation	42 (3.8) 193 (4.4)	29 (3.8) 195 (6.3)	28 (4.0) 183 (5.8)
I don't know			
State	34 (2.2) 215 (2.5)	36 (1.9) 223 (1.8)	30 (2.1) 214 (2.2)
Nation	43 (1.4) 207 (1.4)	30 (1.1) 209 (2.6)	27 (1.2) 202 (2.3)
GENDER			
Male			
State	32 (2.0) 222 (2.0)	34 (1.8) 224 (1.9)	34 (2.0) 220 (2.0)
Nation	42 (1.3) 211 (1.7)	29 (0.9) 212 (1.9)	29 (1.3) 205 (2.1)
Female			
State	39 (2.0) 226 (2.2)	36 (1.6) 232 (1.8)	25 (1.6) 227 (2.2)
Nation	48 (1.5) 219 (1.4)	30 (1.1) 224 (1.8)	21 (1.1) 215 (2.6)

The 1992 data are not reported for this variable due to a rewording of the question for the 1994 assessment.

The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500. The standard errors of the statistics appear in parentheses. It can be said with about 95 percent confidence that, for each population of interest, the value for the entire population is within ± 2 standard errors of the estimate for the sample. In comparing two estimates, one must use the standard error of the difference (see Appendix A for details). *** Sample size is insufficient to permit a reliable estimate.

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TABLE D6.5C

Public School Teachers' Reports on Asking Students to Read Silently

	Almost Every Day		At Least Once a Week		Less than Weekly	
	1992	1994	1992	1994	1992	1994
	Percentage and Proficiency					
TOTAL						
State	76 (2.9) 224 (1.1)	85 (2.2) 225 (1.3)	23 (2.9) 223 (2.1)	14 (2.2) 219 (3.1)	2 (0.7) *** (**.*)	1 (0.6) *** (**.*)
Nation	75 (2.3) 218 (1.8)	74 (2.3) 214 (1.3)	23 (2.1) 212 (2.2)	23 (2.3) 210 (2.5)	2 (0.5) 207 (5.5)!	3 (0.7) 209 (7.9)!
RACE/ ETHNICITY						
White						
State	76 (2.9) 228 (1.1)	86 (2.2) 229 (1.3)	23 (2.9) 226 (2.0)	13 (2.2) 223 (2.6)	1 (0.7) *** (**.*)	1 (0.6) *** (**.*)
Nation	76 (2.6) 224 (1.9)	75 (3.0) 223 (1.4)	23 (2.5) 219 (2.3)	23 (3.0) 221 (3.1)	1 (0.5) *** (**.*)	2 (0.9) 225 (6.4)!
Black						
State	78 (8.6) 201 (2.3)	80 (7.7) 197 (4.3)!	19 (8.5) *** (**.*)	18 (6.6) *** (**.*)	2 (1.7) *** (**.*)	2 (2.4) *** (**.*)
Nation	72 (4.7) 194 (2.0)	71 (3.3) 187 (2.2)	27 (4.7) 193 (3.8)!	25 (3.8) 188 (2.6)	2 (0.9) *** (**.*)	4 (1.5) *** (**.*)
Hispanic						
State	70 (4.8) 208 (4.0)	86 (4.0) 203 (5.0)	27 (4.7) *** (**.*)	13 (3.9) *** (**.*)	3 (1.5) *** (**.*)	2 (1.2) *** (**.*)
Nation	69 (5.7) 203 (2.5)	69 (4.0) 191 (2.9)	24 (5.3) 200 (4.2)!	27 (4.3) 185 (4.4)	7 (2.4) *** (**.*)	3 (2.0) *** (**.*)
TYPE OF LOCATION						
Central City						
State	82 (4.8) 223 (2.2)	86 (3.3) 223 (2.4)	16 (4.7) 220 (7.1)!	13 (3.5) 210 (6.8)!	2 (1.0) *** (**.*)	2 (1.5) *** (**.*)
Nation	77 (3.7) 210 (2.0)	77 (3.3) 205 (2.6)	22 (3.6) 202 (4.4)!	21 (3.3) 203 (4.5)	2 (0.9) *** (**.*)	2 (0.9) 176 (14.6)!
Urb Frng/Lrg Town						
State	75 (6.5) 226 (1.7)	89 (3.6) 227 (2.0)	23 (5.9) 222 (4.1)!	11 (3.6) *** (**.*)	2 (1.6) *** (**.*)	0 (0.0) *** (**.*)
Nation	77 (4.0) 222 (2.7)	73 (4.2) 221 (2.1)	22 (4.0) 217 (3.4)!	23 (4.2) 218 (3.4)	1 (0.6) *** (**.*)	4 (1.6) 223 (6.6)!
Rural/Small Town						
State	71 (5.9) 225 (2.0)	82 (4.9) 226 (2.1)	28 (5.9) 225 (2.6)!	17 (4.8) 225 (3.2)!	2 (1.1) *** (**.*)	1 (0.9) *** (**.*)
Nation	70 (5.0) 219 (4.3)	71 (5.5) 215 (2.4)	27 (4.4) 216 (2.6)	28 (5.2) 208 (4.1)	3 (1.7) *** (**.*)	1 (0.8) *** (**.*)

(continued on next page)

TABLE D6.5C (continued)

Public School Teachers' Reports on Asking Students to Read Silently

	Almost Every Day		At Least Once a Week		Less than Weekly	
	1992	1994	1992	1994	1992	1994
	Percentage and Proficiency					
PARENTS' EDUCATION						
College graduate						
State	80 (2.5)	88 (2.0)	19 (2.4)	11 (1.9)	1 (0.5)	1 (0.7)
	231 (1.9)	234 (1.7)	233 (3.2)	223 (4.9)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)
Nation	78 (2.4)	76 (2.5)	20 (2.2)	21 (2.4)	2 (0.7)	2 (0.7)
	227 (2.1)	223 (1.5)	216 (3.9)	221 (2.8)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)
Some ed after HS						
State	69 (4.1)	88 (2.7)	29 (4.0)	10 (2.6)	2 (1.6)	1 (1.0)
	234 (2.6)	228 (2.8)	229 (3.8)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)
Nation	78 (3.6)	73 (3.6)	19 (3.1)	24 (3.6)	2 (1.3)	3 (0.9)
	221 (3.0)	222 (2.7)	224 (4.4)	221 (3.2)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)
HS graduate						
State	75 (4.3)	84 (3.5)	24 (4.1)	15 (3.4)	1 (0.7)	1 (0.6)
	220 (1.9)	223 (2.7)	218 (3.1)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)
Nation	72 (4.3)	71 (3.1)	26 (4.1)	28 (3.1)	2 (1.4)	2 (0.6)
	212 (2.8)	208 (2.1)	214 (3.6)	205 (4.7)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)
HS non-graduate						
State	70 (5.4)	87 (4.1)	23 (6.2)	11 (3.7)	7 (4.5)	1 (1.2)
	*** (**.*)	211 (4.9)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)
Nation	68 (4.6)	65 (4.4)	29 (4.7)	30 (4.3)	4 (1.6)	6 (1.9)
	199 (4.1)	190 (5.4)	*** (**.*)	188 (7.8)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)
I don't know						
State	74 (3.4)	83 (2.9)	24 (3.4)	16 (3.0)	2 (0.8)	1 (0.7)
	218 (1.8)	217 (1.7)	215 (2.9)	214 (4.3)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)
Nation	73 (2.6)	74 (2.5)	26 (2.6)	23 (2.5)	1 (0.3)	3 (1.0)
	211 (1.9)	206 (1.6)	209 (2.5)	203 (3.1)	*** (**.*)	201 (10.5)!
GENDER						
Male						
State	75 (3.0)	86 (2.3)	24 (3.0)	13 (2.3)	1 (0.6)	1 (0.6)
	221 (1.3)	222 (1.4)	221 (2.4)	218 (4.3)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)
Nation	76 (2.4)	74 (2.5)	22 (2.2)	23 (2.4)	2 (0.5)	3 (0.7)
	214 (2.0)	209 (1.3)	209 (2.8)	204 (3.0)	*** (**.*)	206 (10.0)!
Female						
State	76 (3.1)	85 (2.2)	21 (3.0)	14 (2.2)	2 (1.0)	1 (0.6)
	227 (1.3)	228 (1.7)	224 (2.8)	220 (3.4)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)
Nation	73 (2.4)	74 (2.3)	25 (2.3)	24 (2.4)	2 (0.6)	2 (0.7)
	222 (1.9)	220 (1.5)	215 (2.4)	217 (2.4)	*** (**.*)	213 (6.4)!

The question associated with this variable was reformatted in 1994. No trend comparison tests were conducted.

The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500. The standard errors of the statistics appear in parentheses. It can be said with about 95 percent confidence that, for each population of interest, the value for the entire population is within ± 2 standard errors of the estimate for the sample. In comparing two estimates, one must use the standard error of the difference (see Appendix A for details). ! Interpret with caution — the nature of the sample does not allow accurate determination of the variability of this statistic. *** Sample size is insufficient to permit a reliable estimate.

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TABLE D6.5D

Public School Students' Reports on Reading Silently

	Almost Every Day		At Least Once a Week		Less than Weekly	
	1992	1994	1992	1994	1992	1994
	Percentage and Proficiency					
TOTAL						
State	70 (1.2)	73 (1.2)	22 (1.0)	18 (1.0) <	8 (0.6)	8 (0.6)
	228 (1.1)	228 (1.1)	221 (1.7)	224 (2.2)	205 (2.8)	209 (2.8)
Nation	67 (1.1)	64 (1.1)	22 (0.9)	23 (0.9)	11 (0.6)	13 (0.5) >
	221 (1.3)	220 (1.3)	213 (1.5)	213 (1.6)	193 (2.1)	188 (1.9)
RACE/ ETHNICITY						
White						
State	70 (1.3)	75 (1.2)	22 (1.1)	17 (1.0) <	7 (0.6)	8 (0.6)
	231 (1.0)	231 (1.1)	224 (1.8)	229 (2.0)	207 (3.2)	215 (3.0)
Nation	69 (1.4)	66 (1.2)	22 (1.1)	22 (1.1)	10 (0.7)	12 (0.6)
	227 (1.5)	228 (1.3)	221 (2.0)	222 (1.8)	203 (2.4)	199 (2.5)
Black						
State	67 (3.7)	58 (7.1)	24 (3.3)	25 (4.2)	10 (1.6)	17 (4.0)
	204 (3.5)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)
Nation	60 (2.2)	59 (2.1)	24 (1.9)	24 (1.5)	16 (1.5)	17 (1.3)
	199 (1.9)	195 (1.9)	191 (3.4)	188 (3.5)	176 (3.6)	169 (3.5)
Hispanic						
State	68 (3.5)	65 (4.5)	21 (2.3)	24 (3.8)	11 (2.2)	11 (2.6)
	214 (3.3)	208 (4.1)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)
Nation	60 (2.0)	58 (2.4)	24 (1.6)	24 (2.2)	16 (1.3)	18 (1.4)
	208 (2.0)	198 (3.8)	201 (3.3)	193 (4.3)	179 (4.9)	163 (4.4)
TYPE OF LOCATION						
Central City						
State	75 (1.8)	70 (2.4)	19 (1.6)	19 (1.9)	7 (0.9)	11 (1.1) >
	226 (2.1)	227 (2.3)	217 (2.8)	220 (4.8)	197 (4.3)	203 (5.0)
Nation	65 (1.7)	63 (1.7)	22 (1.5)	23 (1.4)	12 (0.9)	15 (0.8)
	214 (1.8)	213 (2.6)	205 (2.8)	204 (3.3)	184 (3.5)	180 (3.1)
Urb Frng/Lrg Town						
State	69 (3.0)	78 (1.9)	23 (2.1)	17 (1.6)	8 (1.2)	5 (1.2)
	228 (1.9)	228 (2.0)	224 (2.6)	223 (3.1)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)
Nation	69 (2.0)	66 (1.9)	21 (1.7)	22 (1.5)	10 (1.0)	12 (0.9)
	225 (2.2)	225 (2.0)	219 (2.7)	220 (2.5)	193 (4.9)	195 (4.1)
Rural/Small Town						
State	67 (2.0)	73 (1.9)	25 (1.7)	18 (1.6) <	8 (1.0)	8 (0.8)
	228 (1.9)	228 (1.6)	220 (3.5)	230 (2.9)	208 (4.7)	215 (3.2)
Nation	64 (2.3)	63 (1.9)	23 (1.4)	23 (2.0)	13 (1.2)	14 (1.3)
	223 (3.1)	221 (1.9)	213 (2.2)	214 (3.2)	202 (3.7)	188 (3.7)

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TABLE D6.5D (continued)

Public School Students' Reports on Reading Silently

	Almost Every Day		At Least Once a Week		Less than Weekly	
	1992	1994	1992	1994	1992	1994
	Percentage and Proficiency					
PARENTS' EDUCATION						
College graduate						
State	74 (1.6) 235 (1.6)	75 (2.0) 236 (1.6)	20 (1.3) 227 (2.2)	18 (1.7) 231 (3.4)	6 (0.7) *** (**.*)	7 (0.9) *** (**.*)
Nation	68 (1.7) 229 (1.9)	66 (1.6) 229 (1.6)	23 (1.5) 219 (2.3)	22 (1.3) 221 (2.3)	9 (0.9) 201 (3.3)	12 (0.8) 196 (2.7)
Some ed after HS						
State	68 (3.0) 235 (2.3)	76 (2.5) 230 (2.8)	25 (2.6) 231 (3.9)	16 (2.3) *** (**.*)	7 (1.3) *** (**.*)	8 (1.9) *** (**.*)
Nation	72 (2.2) 226 (2.2)	63 (2.9) 227 (2.4)	20 (2.0) 220 (5.0)	27 (2.9) 223 (3.9)	8 (1.5) *** (**.*)	10 (1.7) *** (**.*)
HS graduate						
State	67 (2.5) 223 (1.6)	72 (2.5) 225 (2.4)	25 (2.2) 217 (3.2)	19 (2.1) 221 (3.7)	7 (1.4) *** (**.*)	9 (1.6) *** (**.*)
Nation	64 (2.4) 217 (2.2)	60 (2.1) 214 (2.1)	23 (2.1) 206 (3.8)	27 (2.1) 206 (3.3)	12 (1.5) 193 (3.6)	12 (1.4) 190 (4.5)
HS non-graduate						
State	73 (5.1) *** (**.*)	66 (5.6) *** (**.*)	20 (4.8) *** (**.*)	21 (4.8) *** (**.*)	7 (2.1) *** (**.*)	13 (4.2) *** (**.*)
Nation	54 (4.4) 205 (2.6)	62 (3.0) 198 (4.1)	28 (3.0) 204 (5.2)	16 (2.8) *** (**.*)	17 (3.3) *** (**.*)	21 (2.9) *** (**.*)
I don't know						
State	68 (1.6) 221 (1.4)	73 (1.8) 220 (1.7)	23 (1.3) 215 (3.3)	18 (1.6) 219 (3.2)	10 (1.1) 201 (3.9)	9 (1.2) 201 (4.6)
Nation	66 (1.6) 215 (1.3)	63 (1.4) 213 (1.7)	21 (1.2) 208 (2.5)	21 (1.2) 207 (2.9)	13 (1.0) 190 (2.8)	15 (1.0) 179 (3.2)
GENDER						
Male						
State	67 (1.5) 226 (1.2)	71 (1.6) 225 (1.4)	23 (1.3) 218 (2.5)	19 (1.4) 222 (2.6)	9 (0.8) 203 (3.7)	10 (0.9) 205 (3.6)
Nation	65 (1.3) 218 (1.6)	61 (1.3) 217 (1.6)	22 (1.0) 209 (2.2)	23 (1.1) 208 (2.1)	13 (0.8) 189 (2.5)	16 (0.6) > 184 (2.3)
Female						
State	72 (1.5) 229 (1.4)	76 (1.4) 230 (1.5)	22 (1.3) 224 (1.9)	17 (1.2) < 227 (2.6)	6 (0.7) 208 (3.3)	7 (0.8) 214 (4.2)
Nation	68 (1.4) 224 (1.2)	68 (1.2) 224 (1.4)	22 (1.3) 217 (2.1)	22 (1.1) 219 (2.0)	10 (0.7) 199 (3.3)	10 (0.7) 194 (3.3)

The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500. The standard errors of the statistics appear in parentheses. It can be said with about 95 percent confidence that, for each population of interest, the value for the entire population is within ± 2 standard errors of the estimate for the sample. In comparing two estimates, one must use the standard error of the difference (see Appendix A for details). If the notation > (<) appears, it signifies that the value for public school students in 1994 was significantly higher (lower) than the value for 1992 at about the 95 percent confidence level. *** Sample size is insufficient to permit a reliable estimate.

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TABLE D6.5E

Public School Teachers' Reports on Giving Students Time to Read Books They Have Chosen Themselves

	Almost Every Day	At Least Once a Week	Less than Weekly
	1994	1994	1994
	Percentage and Proficiency		
TOTAL			
State	75 (3.7) 225 (1.3)	21 (3.4) 222 (2.6)	4 (1.1) 213 (5.9)!
Nation	69 (2.5) 215 (1.4)	25 (2.4) 210 (2.5)	6 (1.2) 207 (4.9)
RACE/ ETHNICITY			
White			
State	77 (3.8) 229 (1.3)	20 (3.5) 228 (2.0)	3 (1.2) 217 (5.8)!
Nation	71 (3.2) 223 (1.5)	24 (3.0) 222 (2.8)	5 (1.4) 221 (3.9)!
Black			
State	66 (11.9) 197 (4.9)!	31 (11.3) *** (**.*)	3 (2.7) *** (**.*)
Nation	59 (4.2) 189 (2.6)	31 (3.0) 181 (2.7)	10 (2.4) 190 (5.4)!
Hispanic			
State	69 (6.0) 207 (4.4)	28 (5.7) *** (**.*)	3 (1.6) *** (**.*)
Nation	68 (3.5) 192 (2.8)	25 (3.4) 189 (3.4)	7 (1.6) 176 (7.8)!
TYPE OF LOCATION			
Central City			
State	71 (7.5) 224 (2.6)	26 (7.4) 213 (5.5)!	3 (1.5) *** (**.*)
Nation	70 (4.4) 208 (3.0)	23 (3.1) 195 (4.8)	7 (2.4) 201 (9.9)!
Urb Frng/Lrg Town			
State	80 (4.2) 226 (2.1)	17 (4.5) 224 (3.1)!	3 (1.7) *** (**.*)
Nation	72 (3.5) 221 (2.2)	24 (3.3) 221 (3.2)	4 (1.2) 212 (6.5)!
Rural/Small Town			
State	75 (6.3) 226 (2.0)	20 (5.2) 231 (2.5)!	5 (2.6) *** (**.*)
Nation	64 (5.9) 216 (2.7)	29 (6.3) 210 (4.9)!	7 (3.2) 209 (6.6)!

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TABLE D6.5E (continued)

Public School Teachers' Reports on Giving Students Time to Read Books They Have Chosen Themselves

	Almost Every Day	At Least Once a Week	Less than Weekly
	1994	1994	1994
	Percentage and Proficiency		
PARENTS' EDUCATION			
College graduate			
State	78 (3.8) 234 (1.9)	19 (3.6) 230 (3.7)	3 (1.2) *** (**.*)
Nation	70 (2.8) 225 (1.5)	23 (2.3) 219 (3.0)	7 (1.3) 215 (7.1)!
Some ed after HS			
State	79 (4.5) 228 (2.7)	16 (3.6) *** (**.*)	5 (2.1) *** (**.*)
Nation	68 (3.9) 222 (2.8)	26 (3.4) 223 (3.8)	6 (1.7) *** (**.*)
HS graduate			
State	77 (3.8) 224 (2.8)	19 (3.3) 224 (4.0)	4 (1.5) *** (**.*)
Nation	64 (2.9) 209 (2.4)	30 (3.2) 204 (4.0)	7 (2.0) *** (**.*)
HS non-graduate			
State	71 (5.9) *** (**.*)	28 (5.9) *** (**.*)	1 (0.9) *** (**.*)
Nation	65 (4.6) 192 (4.0)	28 (4.2) 179 (8.1)	7 (2.6) *** (**.*)
I don't know			
State	72 (4.6) 217 (1.9)	25 (4.4) 216 (2.7)	4 (1.2) *** (**.*)
Nation	71 (2.5) 207 (1.8)	24 (2.5) 203 (3.2)	5 (1.1) 197 (5.6)!
GENDER			
Male			
State	76 (4.0) 222 (1.5)	21 (3.6) 221 (3.0)	4 (1.2) *** (**.*)
Nation	70 (2.4) 210 (1.4)	24 (2.3) 203 (3.1)	6 (1.1) 198 (5.4)
Female			
State	75 (3.6) 229 (1.7)	21 (3.5) 223 (3.2)	4 (1.2) *** (**.*)
Nation	68 (2.7) 221 (1.7)	26 (2.6) 216 (2.1)	6 (1.3) 216 (5.3)!

The 1992 data are not reported for this variable due to a rewording of the question for the 1994 assessment.

The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500. The standard errors of the statistics appear in parentheses. It can be said with about 95 percent confidence that, for each population of interest, the value for the entire population is within ± 2 standard errors of the estimate for the sample. In comparing two estimates, one must use the standard error of the difference (see Appendix A for details). ! Interpret with caution — the nature of the sample does not allow accurate determination of the variability of this statistic. *** Sample size is insufficient to permit a reliable estimate.

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TABLE D6.5F

Public School Students' Reports on Reading Books They Have Chosen Themselves

	Almost Every Day		At Least Once a Week		Less than Weekly	
	1992	1994	1992	1994	1992	1994
	Percentage and Proficiency					
TOTAL						
State	58 (1.6) 229 (1.0)	63 (1.9) 230 (1.1)	28 (1.2) 221 (1.6)	25 (1.5) 220 (1.9)	14 (0.9) 211 (2.7)	12 (0.9) 214 (2.6)
Nation	55 (1.5) 222 (1.3)	53 (1.1) 220 (1.1)	27 (1.1) 214 (1.7)	29 (0.9) 212 (1.6)	18 (0.8) 202 (1.4)	18 (0.7) 204 (2.3)
RACE/ ETHNICITY						
White						
State	59 (1.7) 232 (1.1)	64 (2.0) 233 (1.0)	27 (1.3) 224 (1.6)	24 (1.5) 224 (1.8)	14 (1.0) 214 (2.6)	12 (0.9) 218 (2.7)
Nation	57 (1.9) 229 (1.5)	54 (1.4) 229 (1.3)	26 (1.4) 221 (2.3)	29 (1.1) 220 (1.8)	17 (1.1) 211 (1.8)	17 (0.9) 215 (2.6)
Black						
State	58 (5.0) 203 (2.9)!	51 (5.4) *** (**.*)	29 (4.5) *** (**.*)	40 (4.2) *** (**.*)	14 (2.8) *** (**.*)	9 (3.0) *** (**.*)
Nation	49 (2.1) 198 (2.3)	50 (1.8) 191 (2.5)	30 (1.9) 195 (3.2)	30 (1.5) 190 (3.2)	21 (1.6) 181 (3.3)	20 (1.6) 179 (3.6)
Hispanic						
State	51 (3.4) 217 (3.3)	61 (4.4) 211 (4.6)	30 (3.6) 212 (4.0)	25 (4.1) *** (**.*)	19 (2.9) *** (**.*)	14 (3.1) *** (**.*)
Nation	49 (2.2) 208 (2.3)	50 (2.1) 196 (3.2) <	31 (1.7) 199 (3.0)	30 (1.9) 192 (4.5)	21 (1.5) 189 (4.0)	20 (1.6) 177 (3.8)
TYPE OF LOCATION						
Central City						
State	58 (3.1) 227 (2.2)	61 (3.8) 228 (2.5)	27 (1.9) 216 (3.2)	27 (3.3) 218 (3.8)	14 (1.8) 214 (5.4)	12 (1.0) 206 (4.3)
Nation	54 (1.9) 215 (1.9)	52 (2.5) 211 (3.1)	27 (1.4) 206 (2.4)	30 (1.8) 206 (2.8)	19 (1.1) 194 (2.7)	18 (1.2) 195 (3.7)
Urb Frng/Lrg Town						
State	59 (3.8) 230 (1.6)	65 (2.4) 230 (1.6)	27 (2.6) 224 (2.3)	25 (2.3) 220 (3.3)	14 (1.9) 207 (3.7)!	9 (1.2) 216 (5.0)
Nation	57 (2.5) 226 (2.1)	53 (1.6) 225 (1.5)	27 (1.8) 219 (2.9)	30 (1.2) 218 (2.5)	16 (1.5) 205 (3.1)	17 (1.2) 212 (4.3)
Rural/Small Town						
State	56 (2.3) 229 (2.1)	62 (3.1) 231 (1.6)	29 (2.0) 223 (2.3)	24 (2.2) 223 (2.6)	15 (1.3) 211 (4.2)	14 (1.8) 219 (4.0)
Nation	53 (3.6) 224 (3.3)	53 (2.4) 222 (2.3)	28 (2.7) 215 (2.1)	27 (1.6) 208 (2.8)	19 (1.9) 207 (2.5)	20 (1.6) 205 (3.7)

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TABLE D6.5F (continued)

Public School Students' Reports on Reading Books They Have Chosen Themselves

	Almost Every Day		At Least Once a Week		Less than Weekly	
	1992	1994	1992	1994	1992	1994
	Percentage and Proficiency					
PARENTS' EDUCATION						
College graduate						
State	62 (2.1)	67 (2.6)	27 (1.6)	23 (1.9)	12 (1.5)	10 (1.1)
	235 (2.0)	237 (1.4)	227 (2.0)	228 (3.0)	220 (5.0)	223 (4.6)
Nation	58 (1.6)	54 (1.7)	27 (1.3)	30 (1.4)	15 (1.0)	16 (1.0)
	230 (1.8)	228 (1.4)	221 (2.5)	220 (2.0)	209 (3.2)	217 (3.7)
Some ed after HS						
State	58 (4.3)	63 (4.1)	27 (3.5)	27 (4.1)	15 (2.2)	10 (2.5)
	237 (2.4)	232 (3.1)	231 (3.2)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)
Nation	55 (3.8)	59 (3.3)	27 (3.0)	29 (2.7)	19 (2.3)	12 (1.8)
	228 (2.3)	227 (2.5)	220 (4.8)	220 (3.8)	208 (6.0)	*** (**.*)
HS graduate						
State	57 (2.8)	64 (2.5)	31 (2.4)	26 (2.6)	12 (1.8)	10 (2.4)
	224 (1.7)	227 (3.0)	216 (2.4)	219 (3.4)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)
Nation	55 (3.7)	51 (1.9)	25 (3.0)	28 (1.7)	20 (2.4)	21 (1.3)
	216 (2.5)	214 (2.6)	211 (3.5)	206 (3.4)	200 (3.8)	198 (4.6)
HS non-graduate						
State	58 (5.3)	56 (6.5)	25 (4.8)	29 (5.3)	17 (3.9)	16 (3.6)
	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)
Nation	49 (3.3)	45 (4.4)	27 (3.0)	33 (3.9)	24 (2.7)	22 (2.4)
	205 (3.2)	196 (6.0)	198 (5.6)	183 (5.9)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)
I don't know						
State	55 (2.2)	58 (2.3)	28 (1.5)	27 (2.0)	18 (1.5)	15 (1.3)
	222 (1.9)	222 (1.8)	217 (2.6)	213 (2.5)	204 (3.3)	207 (3.7)
Nation	52 (1.8)	52 (1.3)	28 (1.3)	28 (1.2)	20 (1.2)	20 (1.1)
	216 (1.9)	212 (1.5)	208 (1.6)	205 (2.3)	199 (2.5)	195 (2.6)
GENDER						
Male						
State	53 (1.8)	57 (2.2)	30 (1.4)	27 (1.9)	17 (1.1)	16 (1.2)
	226 (1.3)	227 (1.5)	219 (1.7)	218 (2.3)	210 (3.6)	213 (3.4)
Nation	52 (1.6)	49 (1.4)	29 (1.3)	30 (1.3)	19 (1.1)	21 (1.0)
	219 (1.6)	216 (1.5)	211 (2.1)	206 (2.0)	197 (2.3)	199 (2.9)
Female						
State	62 (2.1)	67 (2.1)	26 (1.6)	24 (1.6)	12 (1.0)	9 (1.0)
	231 (1.4)	232 (1.5)	223 (2.0)	223 (2.6)	213 (2.7)	216 (3.5)
Nation	58 (1.8)	57 (1.2)	26 (1.5)	28 (0.9)	16 (0.9)	15 (0.8)
	225 (1.4)	223 (1.5)	217 (1.8)	218 (2.1)	209 (2.3)	212 (2.7)

The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500. The standard errors of the statistics appear in parentheses. It can be said with about 95 percent confidence that, for each population of interest, the value for the entire population is within ± 2 standard errors of the estimate for the sample. In comparing two estimates, one must use the standard error of the difference (see Appendix A for details). If the notation > (<) appears, it signifies that the value for public school students in 1994 was significantly higher (lower) than the value for 1992 at about the 95 percent confidence level. ! Interpret with caution — the nature of the sample does not allow accurate determination of the variability of this statistic. *** Sample size is insufficient to permit a reliable estimate.

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TABLE D6.6

Public School Teachers' Reports on Sending Students to the Library

	At Least Once a Week		Once or Twice a Month		Never or Hardly Ever	
	1992	1994	1992	1994	1992	1994
	Percentage and Proficiency					
TOTAL						
State	92 (2.0) 224 (1.0)	91 (2.5) 224 (1.2)	3 (1.1) 226 (5.7)!	6 (2.0) 219 (4.3)!	4 (1.4) 211 (9.6)!	3 (1.3) *** (**.*)
Nation	85 (2.7) 218 (1.5)	86 (1.8) 214 (1.1)	9 (1.9) 208 (4.1)!	9 (1.8) 209 (4.7)!	5 (1.6) 208 (4.3)!	3 (0.8) 202 (7.3)!
RACE/ ETHNICITY						
White						
State	93 (1.9) 228 (1.0)	90 (2.8) 228 (1.2)	3 (1.1) 231 (5.5)!	6 (2.1) 223 (3.7)!	3 (1.3) 218 (9.0)!	4 (1.5) *** (**.*)
Nation	88 (3.0) 224 (1.7)	88 (2.0) 223 (1.3)	7 (1.9) 217 (4.6)!	8 (2.1) 225 (4.1)!	5 (1.9) 212 (4.1)!	2 (0.8) 217 (7.4)!
Black						
State	93 (3.9) 202 (2.6)	92 (3.1) 199 (3.5)	1 (0.8) *** (**.*)	7 (3.1) *** (**.*)	4 (3.1) *** (**.*)	1 (0.8) *** (**.*)
Nation	79 (4.2) 193 (2.1)	79 (3.8) 188 (2.1)	16 (3.8) 195 (4.7)!	14 (3.5) 180 (6.7)!	5 (2.1) *** (**.*)	5 (1.5) 186 (8.1)!
Hispanic						
State	85 (6.9) 212 (3.0)	95 (2.2) 202 (4.6)	6 (3.1) *** (**.*)	4 (2.2) *** (**.*)	7 (4.2) *** (**.*)	1 (0.5) *** (**.*)
Nation	77 (3.1) 203 (2.8)	87 (2.0) 191 (2.2)	15 (2.6) 196 (6.9)!	7 (1.3) 185 (4.5)!	8 (2.2) *** (**.*)	6 (1.6) *** (**.*)
TYPE OF LOCATION						
Central City						
State	97 (2.0) 223 (2.3)	90 (3.8) 220 (2.7)	1 (0.8) *** (**.*)	7 (3.3) *** (**.*)	2 (1.2) *** (**.*)	3 (2.3) *** (**.*)
Nation	83 (5.0) 209 (2.1)	84 (3.4) 207 (2.5)	10 (3.8) 199 (6.3)!	9 (2.5) 192 (12.3)!	6 (2.8) 210 (6.8)!	6 (1.5) 190 (7.9)!
Urb Frng/Lrg Town						
State	85 (5.5) 226 (1.8)	91 (4.1) 225 (1.8)	3 (2.0) *** (**.*)	7 (3.8) *** (**.*)	10 (4.4) *** (**.*)	2 (1.7) *** (**.*)
Nation	85 (3.3) 222 (2.6)	89 (2.7) 220 (1.6)	10 (2.4) 215 (4.7)!	7 (2.8) 225 (5.7)!	5 (2.1) 205 (6.6)!	3 (1.2) 226 (10.3)!
Rural/Small Town						
State	94 (2.3) 225 (1.7)	91 (4.9) 227 (1.7)	5 (2.1) *** (**.*)	5 (3.2) *** (**.*)	1 (0.5) *** (**.*)	4 (2.5) *** (**.*)
Nation	88 (5.1) 220 (3.1)	84 (4.5) 214 (1.9)	8 (3.9) *** (**.*)	12 (4.4) 211 (9.4)!	4 (2.0) *** (**.*)	1 (0.6) *** (**.*)

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TABLE D6.6 (continued)

Public School Teachers' Reports on Sending Students to the Library

	At Least Once a Week		Once or Twice a Month		Never or Hardly Ever	
	1992	1994	1992	1994	1992	1994
	Percentage and Proficiency					
PARENTS' EDUCATION						
College graduate						
State	93 (2.0) 231 (1.7)	88 (3.4) 232 (1.6)	3 (1.1) *** (**.*)	8 (2.7) *** (**.*)	4 (1.4) *** (**.*)	4 (2.0) *** (**.*)
Nation	87 (2.6) 225 (1.9)	85 (2.2) 224 (1.4)	8 (1.8) 214 (3.8)!	10 (2.3) 219 (5.6)!	5 (1.5) *** (**.*)	4 (0.9) 213 (9.3)!
Some ed after HS						
State	95 (2.0) 233 (2.1)	88 (4.1) 227 (2.7)	2 (1.2) *** (**.*)	7 (3.1) *** (**.*)	2 (1.0) *** (**.*)	4 (2.0) *** (**.*)
Nation	90 (2.5) 224 (2.7)	86 (2.8) 221 (2.5)	5 (1.9) *** (**.*)	9 (2.5) *** (**.*)	5 (1.6) *** (**.*)	3 (0.8) *** (**.*)
HS graduate						
State	92 (2.2) 220 (1.4)	93 (2.5) 223 (2.6)	4 (1.4) *** (**.*)	4 (1.8) *** (**.*)	3 (1.3) *** (**.*)	3 (1.2) *** (**.*)
Nation	83 (3.6) 213 (2.6)	85 (2.7) 209 (2.3)	10 (2.5) *** (**.*)	9 (2.4) 191 (8.6)!	8 (2.5) *** (**.*)	4 (1.0) *** (**.*)
HS non-graduate						
State	92 (4.2) *** (**.*)	93 (3.3) 212 (4.3)	1 (1.0) *** (**.*)	7 (3.3) *** (**.*)	6 (3.7) *** (**.*)	0 (0.0) *** (**.*)
Nation	81 (4.5) 200 (3.6)	88 (2.6) 189 (3.5)	13 (3.9) *** (**.*)	9 (2.1) *** (**.*)	5 (2.1) *** (**.*)	3 (1.0) *** (**.*)
I don't know						
State	91 (2.5) 218 (1.6)	92 (2.1) 217 (1.7)	4 (1.4) *** (**.*)	5 (1.7) *** (**.*)	4 (1.8) *** (**.*)	2 (1.0) *** (**.*)
Nation	83 (3.3) 212 (1.7)	88 (1.5) 207 (1.4)	11 (2.6) 205 (5.1)!	8 (1.4) 202 (4.1)	5 (1.7) 201 (5.8)!	3 (0.8) 187 (7.8)!
GENDER						
Male						
State	93 (2.0) 221 (1.2)	90 (2.9) 221 (1.3)	3 (1.0) *** (**.*)	7 (2.3) 213 (5.0)!	4 (1.4) *** (**.*)	3 (1.3) *** (**.*)
Nation	86 (2.8) 214 (1.8)	87 (1.6) 209 (1.4)	9 (1.8) 201 (5.3)!	9 (1.6) 203 (5.2)	5 (1.7) 208 (4.0)!	3 (0.7) 191 (7.0)!
Female						
State	92 (2.2) 227 (1.3)	91 (2.4) 226 (1.6)	4 (1.3) *** (**.*)	6 (1.8) *** (**.*)	3 (1.4) *** (**.*)	3 (1.3) *** (**.*)
Nation	85 (2.8) 221 (1.6)	85 (2.1) 220 (1.2)	10 (2.2) 214 (3.5)!	10 (2.1) 216 (4.7)!	5 (1.5) 209 (6.6)!	4 (0.9) 212 (8.4)!

The question associated with this variable was reformatted in 1994. No trend comparison tests were conducted.

The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500. The standard errors of the statistics appear in parentheses. It can be said with about 95 percent confidence that, for each population of interest, the value for the entire population is within ± 2 standard errors of the estimate for the sample. In comparing two estimates, one must use the standard error of the difference (see Appendix A for details). Percentages may not add to 100 because a very small percentage of teachers reported that there was no library at their school. ! Interpret with caution — the nature of the sample does not allow accurate determination of the variability of this statistic. *** Sample size is insufficient to permit a reliable estimate.

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TABLE D6.7

Public School Teachers' Reports on Assigning Books from the Library

	At Least Once a Week		Once or Twice a Month		Never or Hardly Ever	
	1992	1994	1992	1994	1992	1994
	Percentage and Proficiency					
TOTAL						
State	55 (3.6) 222 (1.5)	56 (3.9) 224 (1.6)	27 (3.3) 226 (1.8)	26 (3.5) 223 (2.5)	18 (2.6) 226 (1.8)	18 (2.8) 228 (2.5)
Nation	50 (2.8) 216 (1.6)	47 (3.1) 212 (1.5)	31 (2.7) 219 (2.2)	37 (2.8) 215 (2.0)	19 (2.3) 213 (2.6)	17 (1.5) 213 (3.2)
RACE/ ETHNICITY						
White						
State	54 (3.8) 226 (1.4)	55 (4.3) 228 (1.5)	27 (3.3) 229 (1.9)	26 (3.8) 227 (2.5)	19 (2.9) 228 (2.3)	19 (2.9) 230 (2.6)
Nation	49 (3.1) 223 (1.9)	44 (3.3) 223 (1.5)	30 (3.0) 225 (2.4)	38 (3.1) 223 (2.2)	20 (2.5) 219 (3.0)	17 (1.8) 221 (3.1)
Black						
State	67 (8.1) 198 (3.5)!	68 (5.5) 195 (4.4)!	15 (5.0) *** (**.*)	25 (4.6) *** (**.*)	17 (5.8) *** (**.*)	8 (5.5) *** (**.*)
Nation	50 (3.6) 193 (2.2)	52 (4.0) 185 (2.6)	31 (3.0) 196 (3.5)	34 (2.8) 187 (3.8)	18 (3.5) 194 (4.6)!	13 (2.4) 193 (5.4)
Hispanic						
State	55 (4.9) 208 (5.2)	64 (5.8) 199 (5.8)	32 (5.7) 209 (4.9)!	24 (5.5) *** (**.*)	13 (3.5) *** (**.*)	12 (4.5) *** (**.*)
Nation	56 (5.6) 199 (2.6)	52 (4.7) 192 (3.3)	29 (3.8) 207 (4.9)	29 (4.2) 189 (3.4)	14 (3.5) 196 (4.8)!	19 (3.1) 188 (4.5)
TYPE OF LOCATION						
Central City						
State	61 (5.6) 218 (3.1)	58 (6.5) 218 (3.1)	25 (5.1) 229 (3.6)!	26 (6.5) 223 (4.2)!	14 (3.6) 224 (3.5)!	16 (4.7) 227 (5.1)!
Nation	56 (4.3) 207 (2.7)	48 (3.9) 202 (3.3)	27 (3.9) 209 (3.9)	33 (3.5) 205 (4.3)	16 (3.1) 209 (4.7)!	18 (2.8) 212 (4.4)
Urb Frng/Lrg Town						
State	51 (6.1) 225 (1.9)	61 (6.3) 227 (2.4)	30 (5.3) 223 (3.6)!	24 (5.9) 223 (4.6)!	19 (4.1) 226 (3.5)!	15 (4.3) 227 (3.7)!
Nation	49 (4.1) 222 (3.1)	46 (5.3) 219 (2.4)	32 (3.5) 223 (3.3)	36 (5.2) 223 (2.3)	19 (2.7) 215 (3.5)	17 (2.9) 218 (5.0)
Rural/Small Town						
State	54 (7.8) 224 (2.3)	51 (7.0) 226 (2.4)	26 (6.0) 225 (3.3)!	27 (5.6) 224 (3.9)!	20 (5.3) 227 (3.3)!	22 (5.1) 229 (3.2)!
Nation	45 (6.6) 218 (3.3)	45 (5.7) 216 (3.4)	33 (6.2) 221 (3.0)	41 (5.1) 213 (3.1)	22 (5.4) 215 (5.4)!	14 (3.8) 205 (6.3)!

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TABLE D6.7 (continued)

Public School Teachers' Reports on Assigning Books from the Library

	At Least Once a Week		Once or Twice a Month		Never or Hardly Ever	
	1992	1994	1992	1994	1992	1994
	Percentage and Proficiency					
PARENTS' EDUCATION						
College graduate						
State	55 (4.1)	56 (4.7)	29 (3.8)	28 (4.7)	17 (2.7)	16 (3.5)
	229 (2.5)	231 (2.0)	233 (2.0)	232 (2.8)	235 (2.9)	240 (3.8)!
Nation	51 (3.6)	46 (3.8)	31 (3.3)	38 (3.6)	18 (2.4)	15 (1.6)
	224 (2.7)	221 (2.0)	227 (2.5)	225 (2.0)	221 (3.8)	224 (4.1)
Some ed after HS						
State	53 (4.7)	56 (5.1)	26 (4.4)	22 (4.4)	21 (3.6)	22 (4.2)
	231 (2.9)	225 (4.0)	237 (4.8)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)
Nation	49 (5.7)	40 (3.4)	29 (5.0)	38 (3.5)	21 (3.3)	21 (3.1)
	224 (3.2)	220 (3.7)	221 (4.3)	224 (3.4)	217 (4.3)	224 (4.0)
HS graduate						
State	61 (4.7)	54 (5.1)	20 (3.6)	27 (4.1)	19 (3.7)	18 (3.5)
	219 (2.2)	223 (3.3)	220 (3.1)	219 (3.5)	222 (4.2)!	*** (**.*)
Nation	42 (3.6)	48 (3.7)	35 (4.1)	35 (3.4)	23 (4.5)	17 (2.4)
	210 (3.0)	209 (3.1)	214 (3.3)	207 (3.3)	213 (4.0)!	206 (4.9)
HS non-graduate						
State	53 (6.8)	69 (6.2)	30 (6.4)	18 (5.2)	17 (5.1)	13 (3.4)
	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)
Nation	48 (5.1)	48 (4.5)	37 (5.0)	35 (3.7)	15 (3.8)	17 (2.9)
	195 (3.6)	194 (5.5)	*** (**.*)	184 (7.7)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)
I don't know						
State	54 (3.9)	56 (4.3)	28 (3.4)	24 (3.4)	18 (2.9)	19 (3.4)
	216 (2.3)	218 (2.4)	218 (2.5)	214 (3.7)	219 (2.9)	217 (3.0)
Nation	52 (3.0)	48 (3.4)	29 (2.8)	35 (2.8)	19 (2.2)	17 (1.9)
	210 (1.9)	205 (1.7)	213 (2.8)	207 (2.6)	207 (2.8)	206 (3.1)
GENDER						
Male						
State	56 (3.7)	55 (4.1)	27 (3.3)	26 (3.6)	18 (2.6)	19 (3.2)
	219 (1.7)	221 (1.8)	224 (2.0)	219 (2.6)	223 (2.9)	224 (2.8)
Nation	49 (2.9)	47 (3.3)	31 (2.8)	37 (2.9)	20 (2.3)	16 (1.5)
	212 (2.0)	207 (1.7)	214 (2.4)	209 (2.6)	210 (2.7)	208 (3.7)
Female						
State	55 (3.8)	57 (4.0)	27 (3.5)	26 (3.7)	18 (2.8)	17 (2.7)
	226 (1.6)	226 (1.9)	227 (2.4)	227 (3.0)	228 (2.2)	231 (3.2)
Nation	51 (3.0)	46 (3.1)	31 (2.8)	36 (2.7)	18 (2.5)	17 (1.6)
	219 (1.7)	218 (1.9)	223 (2.3)	221 (1.8)	217 (3.6)	219 (3.4)

The question associated with this variable was reformatted in 1994. No trend comparison tests were conducted.

The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500. The standard errors of the statistics appear in parentheses. It can be said with about 95 percent confidence that, for each population of interest, the value for the entire population is within ± 2 standard errors of the estimate for the sample. In comparing two estimates, one must use the standard error of the difference (see Appendix A for details). Percentages may not add to 100 because a very small percentage of teachers reported that there was no library at their school. ! Interpret with caution — the nature of the sample does not allow accurate determination of the variability of this statistic. *** Sample size is insufficient to permit a reliable estimate.

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TABLE D6.8A

Public School Teachers' Reports on Assessing Students Via Multiple-Choice Tests

	Once or Twice a Week		Once or Twice a Month		Once or Twice a Year		Never or Hardly Ever	
	1992	1994	1992	1994	1992	1994	1992	1994
	Percentage and Proficiency							
TOTAL								
State	4 (1.6) 215 (7.9)!	2 (1.0) *** (**.*)	53 (4.2) 227 (1.3)	40 (3.5) 224 (1.8)	27 (2.8) 223 (1.9)	33 (3.8) 225 (1.9)	16 (2.9) 218 (2.6)	25 (3.2) 224 (2.7)
Nation	14 (2.1) 208 (3.1)	12 (1.9) 211 (3.1)	49 (3.3) 217 (1.7)	49 (2.1) 212 (1.7)	15 (2.2) 220 (2.5)	17 (1.5) 216 (3.2)	21 (3.4) 218 (3.5)	22 (2.3) 215 (2.7)
RACE/ ETHNICITY								
White								
State	4 (1.7) 219 (7.4)!	2 (1.0) *** (**.*)	54 (4.3) 230 (1.2)	40 (3.6) 227 (1.8)	27 (3.0) 227 (1.9)	33 (3.8) 229 (1.9)	15 (3.0) 221 (2.8)!	25 (3.4) 230 (2.0)
Nation	12 (2.3) 217 (3.7)	11 (2.1) 222 (3.2)	50 (3.9) 224 (1.7)	47 (2.5) 223 (2.0)	16 (2.8) 224 (2.5)	18 (2.1) 222 (2.7)	22 (3.9) 225 (3.6)	24 (2.7) 224 (2.7)
Black								
State	3 (2.7) *** (**.*)	6 (4.3) *** (**.*)	39 (8.3) 200 (6.5)!	40 (8.0) *** (**.*)	31 (5.1) *** (**.*)	28 (11.8) *** (**.*)	26 (7.5) *** (**.*)	26 (8.3) *** (**.*)
Nation	23 (4.5) 194 (4.2)!	15 (2.7) 184 (4.5)	52 (4.3) 195 (2.4)	59 (3.0) 188 (2.7)	10 (2.2) 199 (5.5)!	10 (2.1) 186 (5.5)	15 (3.2) 189 (5.1)!	15 (2.8) 184 (3.8)
Hispanic								
State	4 (1.7) *** (**.*)	1 (0.7) *** (**.*)	60 (5.8) 211 (4.4)	43 (7.1) 208 (5.5)	27 (4.1) *** (**.*)	32 (6.8) *** (**.*)	10 (3.2) *** (**.*)	24 (8.0) *** (**.*)
Nation	20 (3.1) 198 (3.6)	12 (3.3) 192 (6.9)!	44 (4.5) 202 (3.0)	48 (3.8) 189 (2.6)	14 (2.4) 204 (6.7)	18 (3.5) 197 (5.7)	22 (4.5) 203 (4.8)!	21 (2.9) 186 (6.4)
TYPE OF LOCATION								
Central City								
State	2 (1.0) *** (**.*)	2 (1.4) *** (**.*)	54 (6.5) 225 (3.5)	28 (6.3) 217 (4.2)!	28 (4.5) 219 (3.6)	33 (7.0) 225 (3.5)!	17 (4.9) 218 (5.1)!	37 (6.0) 220 (4.4)
Nation	18 (4.0) 199 (4.8)!	10 (2.4) 203 (5.7)!	54 (3.6) 207 (2.4)	55 (3.6) 201 (2.8)	14 (3.2) 216 (5.6)!	16 (2.0) 211 (7.7)	14 (4.5) 214 (4.8)!	19 (2.9) 209 (5.4)
Urb Frng/Lrg Town								
State	4 (2.3) *** (**.*)	4 (2.6) *** (**.*)	39 (6.5) 226 (3.3)	36 (5.4) 222 (2.2)	36 (6.0) 225 (2.9)!	31 (7.0) 226 (3.7)!	21 (7.0) *** (**.*)	28 (6.9) 229 (3.4)!
Nation	9 (2.4) 211 (4.9)!	14 (3.8) 215 (5.0)!	43 (5.3) 224 (3.0)	40 (3.3) 224 (2.3)	21 (4.3) 220 (3.8)!	19 (3.1) 217 (4.3)	27 (4.9) 220 (5.2)	26 (3.6) 220 (3.2)
Rural/Small Town								
State	6 (3.6) *** (**.*)	1 (0.9) *** (**.*)	63 (7.6) 228 (1.7)	54 (6.1) 228 (2.6)	20 (4.1) 224 (3.2)!	33 (5.5) 224 (3.3)!	11 (3.5) 212 (4.3)!	11 (4.0) 225 (5.1)!
Nation	17 (5.1) 215 (5.4)!	9 (3.2) 211 (8.3)!	54 (6.3) 219 (2.9)	56 (6.2) 213 (3.0)	9 (4.2) 224 (3.0)!	16 (3.6) 219 (3.4)!	19 (7.1) 217 (7.5)!	19 (5.7) 211 (6.4)!

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TABLE D6.8A (continued)

Public School Teachers' Reports on Assessing Students Via Multiple-Choice Tests

	Once or Twice a Week		Once or Twice a Month		Once or Twice a Year		Never or Hardly Ever	
	1992	1994	1992	1994	1992	1994	1992	1994
	Percentage and Proficiency							
PARENTS' EDUCATION								
College graduate								
State	4 (1.2)	3 (1.4)	52 (4.4)	33 (3.4)	30 (3.6)	34 (4.6)	15 (3.1)	30 (4.1)
	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	235 (1.7)	230 (3.0)	229 (2.7)	234 (2.7)	225 (3.8)!	235 (2.7)
Nation	13 (2.3)	10 (1.6)	48 (3.8)	49 (2.0)	17 (2.4)	17 (2.0)	22 (3.9)	24 (2.6)
	214 (4.6)	216 (4.4)	224 (2.4)	221 (2.1)	227 (3.2)	229 (3.5)	229 (4.6)	226 (3.3)
Some ed after HS								
State	3 (2.0)	2 (1.5)	58 (5.8)	47 (5.5)	25 (4.2)	32 (5.1)	14 (3.5)	20 (4.3)
	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	235 (2.8)	228 (3.9)	231 (3.7)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)
Nation	13 (3.1)	10 (2.0)	53 (5.3)	49 (4.3)	16 (3.0)	17 (2.8)	18 (4.0)	24 (3.5)
	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	226 (3.7)	224 (2.6)	*** (**.*)	218 (5.2)	*** (**.*)	219 (4.9)
HS graduate								
State	5 (2.0)	1 (0.9)	57 (5.5)	47 (5.1)	24 (3.9)	31 (4.6)	15 (3.5)	20 (4.0)
	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	221 (1.9)	227 (2.9)	224 (3.0)	219 (3.2)	*** (**.*)	218 (4.1)!
Nation	13 (3.2)	14 (3.3)	54 (3.6)	49 (3.4)	15 (3.3)	18 (2.7)	19 (3.5)	19 (3.2)
	213 (6.0)!	208 (5.2)!	210 (2.6)	207 (2.5)	217 (4.9)!	206 (5.9)	216 (4.7)	208 (5.2)
HS non-graduate								
State	3 (2.3)	3 (2.0)	51 (7.3)	48 (7.4)	27 (5.8)	33 (6.5)	19 (6.5)	17 (5.3)
	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)
Nation	15 (3.2)	12 (2.8)	50 (5.0)	51 (6.2)	11 (3.8)	13 (2.6)	24 (4.7)	25 (6.2)
	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	202 (4.6)	190 (5.0)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)
I don't know								
State	4 (1.9)	2 (1.1)	52 (4.4)	42 (4.3)	27 (2.8)	33 (4.2)	17 (3.2)	23 (3.4)
	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	220 (2.1)	217 (2.4)	215 (2.7)	218 (2.1)	213 (3.7)	214 (3.9)
Nation	16 (2.5)	12 (2.4)	49 (3.9)	49 (2.5)	14 (2.7)	18 (2.2)	21 (3.7)	21 (2.3)
	203 (3.1)	206 (4.4)	212 (2.0)	204 (2.1)	212 (3.9)	207 (2.9)	211 (3.7)	207 (2.9)
GENDER								
Male								
State	4 (1.6)	2 (0.8)	53 (4.1)	40 (3.6)	28 (2.9)	34 (4.1)	15 (2.9)	24 (3.3)
	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	224 (1.7)	220 (2.0)	221 (2.1)	223 (2.1)	213 (3.9)	220 (2.9)
Nation	14 (2.3)	12 (1.9)	49 (3.6)	48 (2.2)	16 (2.6)	17 (1.4)	21 (3.6)	22 (2.3)
	204 (4.1)	205 (3.8)	213 (1.8)	207 (2.1)	218 (2.7)	209 (3.6)	214 (4.4)	210 (3.5)
Female								
State	4 (1.6)	2 (1.1)	53 (4.6)	40 (3.7)	26 (3.0)	32 (3.8)	16 (3.1)	25 (3.3)
	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	229 (1.6)	227 (2.5)	225 (2.3)	227 (2.6)	222 (2.9)!	227 (3.5)
Nation	14 (2.0)	11 (2.0)	50 (3.2)	50 (2.3)	15 (2.1)	17 (1.8)	21 (3.2)	22 (2.5)
	213 (3.0)	217 (3.3)	221 (2.0)	218 (1.7)	221 (3.2)	222 (3.4)	223 (3.4)	220 (2.6)

The question associated with this variable was reformatted in 1994. No trend comparison tests were conducted.

The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500. The standard errors of the statistics appear in parentheses. It can be said with about 95 percent confidence that, for each population of interest, the value for the entire population is within ± 2 standard errors of the estimate for the sample. In comparing two estimates, one must use the standard error of the difference (see Appendix A for details). ! Interpret with caution — the nature of the sample does not allow accurate determination of the variability of this statistic. *** Sample size is insufficient to permit a reliable estimate.

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TABLE D6.8B

Public School Teachers' Reports on Assessing Students With Paragraph Length Written Responses About What They Have Read

	Once or Twice a Week	Once or Twice a Month	Once or Twice a Year	Never or Hardly Ever
	1994	1994	1994	1994
	Percentage and Proficiency			
TOTAL				
State	35 (3.4) 224 (2.1)	50 (3.5) 225 (1.5)	9 (2.0) 220 (3.6)!	6 (1.7) 224 (4.4)!
Nation	39 (3.0) 215 (1.5)	44 (2.9) 214 (1.5)	10 (1.4) 213 (3.4)	7 (1.4) 201 (3.8)!
RACE/ ETHNICITY				
White				
State	34 (3.5) 229 (2.1)	51 (3.6) 228 (1.7)	9 (2.0) 227 (3.5)!	6 (1.9) 226 (4.4)!
Nation	39 (3.4) 224 (1.8)	45 (3.2) 223 (1.6)	10 (1.7) 223 (3.5)	6 (1.5) 209 (3.7)!
Black				
State	35 (11.2) *** (**.*)	53 (9.4) *** (**.*)	9 (4.2) *** (**.*)	2 (1.4) *** (**.*)
Nation	39 (3.7) 188 (3.0)	39 (3.7) 185 (2.7)	11 (2.1) 190 (5.1)	11 (3.2) 183 ([illegible].9)!
Hispanic				
State	39 (5.3) 198 (7.5)!	41 (5.0) 208 (4.4)	14 (3.8) *** (**.*)	5 (2.6) *** (**.*)
Nation	39 (4.1) 193 (3.3)	45 (3.9) 189 (2.8)	10 (2.2) 188 (9.5)!	6 (1.3) *** (**.*)
TYPE OF LOCATION				
Central City				
State	37 (6.2) 220 (4.1)	50 (6.8) 224 (2.2)	11 (3.6) 212 (5.8)!	2 (2.1) *** (**.*)
Nation	40 (5.5) 206 (2.7)	44 (5.7) 205 (3.8)	7 (1.7) 205 (7.5)!	9 (2.9) 192 (4.0)!
Urb Frng/Lrg Town				
State	37 (4.8) 226 (2.7)	50 (5.5) 226 (2.8)	7 (2.7) *** (**.*)	6 (2.2) *** (**.*)
Nation	39 (4.4) 223 (2.0)	45 (4.2) 219 (2.2)	12 (2.4) 218 (5.7)!	4 (1.2) 217 (9.4)!
Rural/Small Town				
State	31 (6.5) 227 (3.9)!	51 (5.7) 225 (2.7)	9 (3.6) *** (**.*)	9 (3.8) *** (**.*)
Nation	39 (5.7) 215 (2.8)	42 (5.0) 215 (3.0)	10 (2.8) 213 (6.3)!	9 (3.4) 201 (4.7)!

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TABLE D6.8B (continued)

Public School Teachers' Reports on Assessing Students With Paragraph Length Written Responses About What They Have Read

	Once or Twice a Week	Once or Twice a Month	Once or Twice a Year	Never or Hardly Ever
	1994	1994	1994	1994
	Percentage and Proficiency			
PARENTS' EDUCATION				
College graduate				
State	36 (3.5) 235 (2.5)	51 (4.1) 232 (2.5)	9 (2.3) 230 (4.8)!	4 (1.5) *** (**.*)
Nation	44 (3.4) 225 (1.7)	41 (3.4) 223 (1.9)	9 (1.4) 225 (3.7)	5 (1.3) 209 (6.1)!
Some ed after HS				
State	37 (4.8) 225 (3.6)	47 (5.7) 229 (4.7)	7 (2.5) *** (**.*)	8 (4.0) *** (**.*)
Nation	38 (4.4) 218 (4.0)	44 (3.8) 222 (3.4)	11 (3.0) *** (**.*)	7 (1.7) *** (**.*)
HS graduate				
State	28 (5.0) 223 (4.8)	55 (4.6) 223 (2.5)	10 (2.6) *** (**.*)	7 (2.8) *** (**.*)
Nation	37 (3.6) 206 (3.2)	46 (3.2) 208 (2.5)	10 (1.9) 213 (6.2)	7 (1.4) *** (**.*)
HS non-graduate				
State	38 (6.6) *** (**.*)	45 (6.3) *** (**.*)	10 (3.6) *** (**.*)	7 (3.1) *** (**.*)
Nation	36 (4.4) 196 (5.0)	38 (4.3) 187 (8.2)	12 (2.8) *** (**.*)	14 (3.1) *** (**.*)
I don't know				
State	35 (4.0) 215 (2.8)	50 (3.8) 219 (1.9)	10 (2.3) 212 (4.9)!	6 (1.8) *** (**.*)
Nation	36 (3.0) 207 (2.0)	47 (2.9) 207 (2.1)	10 (1.5) 202 (5.1)	7 (1.7) 192 (4.3)!
GENDER				
Male				
State	34 (3.6) 223 (2.3)	50 (3.5) 221 (1.8)	9 (2.0) 216 (4.2)!	6 (1.8) 220 (5.4)!
Nation	40 (3.1) 209 (1.8)	44 (3.1) 208 (1.8)	9 (1.3) 210 (4.4)	7 (1.4) 195 (4.8)
Female				
State	35 (3.5) 225 (2.7)	51 (3.8) 229 (1.8)	9 (2.1) 224 (4.2)!	5 (1.8) *** (**.*)
Nation	39 (3.0) 221 (1.9)	44 (2.7) 220 (1.6)	10 (1.7) 216 (3.3)	7 (1.4) 207 (3.9)!

The 1992 data are not reported for this variable due to a rewording of the question for the 1994 assessment.

The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500. The standard errors of the statistics appear in parentheses. It can be said with about 95 percent confidence that, for each population of interest, the value for the entire population is within ± 2 standard errors of the estimate for the sample. In comparing two estimates, one must use the standard error of the difference (see Appendix A for details). ! Interpret with caution — the nature of the sample does not allow accurate determination of the variability of this statistic. *** Sample size is insufficient to permit a reliable estimate.

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TABLE D6.8C

Public School Teachers' Reports on Assessing Students Via Reading Portfolios

	Once or Twice a Week		Once or Twice a Month		Once or Twice a Year		Never or Hardly Ever	
	1992	1994	1992	1994	1992	1994	1992	1994
	Percentage and Proficiency							
TOTAL								
State	7 (1.6) 225 (3.3)!	12 (2.5) 218 (3.9)!	22 (2.9) 224 (2.3)	31 (3.4) 224 (2.2)	18 (2.2) 220 (2.2)	16 (2.4) 225 (2.9)	52 (4.1) 225 (1.2)	42 (3.7) 226 (1.4)
Nation	14 (1.8) 217 (4.2)	15 (1.6) 209 (2.4)	25 (2.3) 221 (2.4)	26 (2.6) 212 (2.8)	13 (2.3) 216 (3.7)	16 (2.0) 217 (2.8)	47 (3.3) 214 (1.4)	43 (2.5) 214 (1.8)
RACE/ ETHNICITY								
White								
State	8 (1.8) 227 (3.0)!	11 (2.5) 226 (3.7)!	21 (2.9) 229 (2.4)	30 (3.5) 229 (2.0)	18 (2.5) 224 (2.2)	16 (2.5) 229 (2.9)	53 (4.4) 228 (1.3)	44 (4.1) 228 (1.4)
Nation	15 (2.2) 224 (4.4)	13 (1.8) 222 (2.4)	26 (2.7) 229 (2.4)	25 (3.2) 224 (2.1)	13 (3.0) 226 (3.0)!	16 (2.2) 224 (3.2)	47 (3.8) 219 (1.8)	46 (3.4) 222 (2.0)
Black								
State	1 (1.0) *** (**.*)	13 (3.4) *** (**.*)	31 (4.5) *** (**.*)	41 (9.7) *** (**.*)	15 (4.5) *** (**.*)	17 (5.3) *** (**.*)	52 (5.6) 204 (4.2)	28 (6.4) *** (**.*)
Nation	14 (2.6) 188 (4.3)	22 (3.3) 186 (3.1)	23 (3.7) 193 (2.8)	27 (3.4) 183 (4.1)	15 (3.3) 190 (5.2)!	13 (2.2) 191 (3.8)	48 (4.0) 197 (2.4)	39 (3.7) 188 (2.9)
Hispanic								
State	6 (3.0) *** (**.*)	21 (5.3) *** (**.*)	25 (5.0) *** (**.*)	28 (5.2) *** (**.*)	18 (3.6) *** (**.*)	15 (4.1) *** (**.*)	51 (5.9) 211 (4.0)	36 (6.1) *** (**.*)
Nation	13 (3.0) 203 (5.2)	16 (3.1) 184 (4.8)!	23 (3.3) 204 (4.6)	32 (3.6) 186 (4.5)	12 (2.2) 190 (5.1)!	17 (3.8) 201 (3.7)!	51 (3.9) 202 (3.1)	35 (3.2) 191 (3.7)
TYPE OF LOCATION								
Central City								
State	7 (2.8) *** (**.*)	14 (4.2) 213 (7.8)!	28 (4.6) 223 (4.0)	29 (5.1) 217 (4.6)	17 (3.3) 217 (4.5)!	16 (4.2) 222 (6.0)!	48 (5.8) 223 (3.0)	41 (4.8) 225 (2.3)
Nation	17 (3.1) 210 (4.4)!	20 (2.9) 198 (4.1)	26 (5.0) 209 (4.1)!	31 (3.6) 206 (5.4)	17 (3.1) 208 (7.0)!	12 (3.1) 205 (4.5)!	41 (4.3) 207 (2.3)	36 (3.8) 207 (3.5)
Urb Frng/Lrg Town								
State	10 (3.1) *** (**.*)	16 (5.3) 221 (3.3)!	23 (6.1) 228 (3.3)!	31 (6.0) 227 (2.8)!	24 (4.2) 223 (3.9)!	17 (4.4) 225 (4.0)!	43 (5.8) 224 (2.1)!	36 (5.8) 225 (3.7)!
Nation	16 (3.3) 219 (7.8)!	14 (2.4) 217 (3.5)	26 (3.5) 227 (3.3)	25 (4.9) 216 (3.7)!	13 (3.6) 224 (5.8)!	21 (2.8) 226 (3.5)	44 (4.5) 217 (2.7)	40 (4.4) 221 (2.5)
Rural/Small Town								
State	6 (2.7) *** (**.*)	8 (3.6) *** (**.*)	18 (4.6) 222 (4.1)!	32 (5.9) 228 (3.2)!	15 (4.0) 219 (3.6)!	15 (3.6) 227 (4.7)!	62 (8.1) 226 (2.1)	46 (7.4) 226 (2.1)
Nation	10 (2.9) 221 (10.3)!	10 (3.3) 223 (3.9)!	24 (4.2) 225 (4.4)!	22 (5.5) 215 (3.5)!	10 (4.6) 215 (7.4)!	11 (4.4) 205 (3.7)!	56 (7.2) 215 (2.4)	57 (5.1) 212 (2.5)

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TABLE D6.8C (continued)

Public School Teachers' Reports on Assessing Students Via Reading Portfolios

	Once or Twice a Week		Once or Twice a Month		Once or Twice a Year		Never or Hardly Ever	
	1992	1994	1992	1994	1992	1994	1992	1994
	Percentage and Proficiency							
PARENTS' EDUCATION								
College graduate								
State	7 (1.5)	12 (2.7)	2[illegible] ([illegible].0)	34 (3.6)	18 (2.7)	16 (2.8)	50 (4.3)	39 (3.7)
	*** (**.*)	230 (4.7)!	228 (3.5)	233 (2.8)	228 (3.0)	238 (4.0)	234 (1.7)	231 (2.4)
Nation	15 (2.3)	16 (1.9)	27 (2.9)	28 (3.2)	13 (2.6)	15 (1.9)	45 (3.7)	41 (3.1)
	225 (7.5)	220 (3.0)	229 (3.0)	221 (3.0)	223 (4.3)!	228 (3.3)	222 (2.3)	224 (2.6)
Some ed after HS								
State	11 (3.3)	9 (3.2)	19 (4.0)	29 (4.5)	15 (3.0)	14 (3.7)	54 (5.5)	48 (5.6)
	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	231 (2.6)	232 (3.9)
Nation	15 (3.4)	15 (2.6)	27 (4.1)	27 (3.6)	11 (3.1)	14 (2.4)	47 (5.5)	45 (3.6)
	*** (**.*)	216 (5.8)	226 (6.0)	221 (4.8)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	220 (3.0)	224 (3.4)
HS graduate								
State	6 (1.8)	9 (2.6)	18 (3.9)	25 (4.3)	17 (2.9)	20 (3.3)	58 (5.2)	47 (5.3)
	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	222 (4.6)	220 (4.8)	219 (4.0)	219 (4.3)	220 (2.4)	226 (3.0)
Nation	12 (3.0)	13 (1.9)	26 (3.4)	23 (2.7)	15 (2.9)	16 (2.9)	48 (4.6)	47 (3.2)
	*** (**.*)	198 (6.1)	216 (4.0)	203 (4.2)	211 (6.5)!	210 (3.8)	211 (2.6)	211 (2.9)
HS non-graduate								
State	10 (3.8)	23 (5.4)	22 (5.4)	24 (5.1)	20 (6.6)	15 (4.2)	49 (8.7)	38 (5.7)
	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)
Nation	15 (3.2)	15 (2.8)	17 (3.7)	26 (3.8)	15 (4.1)	13 (3.4)	52 (5.4)	47 (4.4)
	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	184 (6.1)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	196 (5.3)	187 (6.6)
I don't know								
State	7 (1.7)	13 (2.9)	23 (3.2)	31 (3.9)	19 (2.5)	15 (2.7)	51 (4.4)	41 (4.1)
	219 (5.1)!	209 (5.5)!	219 (2.7)	215 (3.0)	212 (3.3)	216 (3.8)	218 (1.8)	220 (1.6)
Nation	15 (2.1)	15 (1.8)	24 (2.6)	25 (2.6)	13 (2.6)	17 (2.4)	48 (3.5)	43 (2.5)
	211 (3.6)	199 (3.0)	214 (3.0)	205 (3.3)	213 (4.5)!	210 (3.9)	208 (1.8)	206 (2.1)
GENDER								
Male								
State	8 (1.8)	12 (2.6)	23 (3.0)	29 (3.3)	18 (2.4)	16 (2.6)	51 (4.3)	43 (3.9)
	223 (3.6)!	217 (3.5)!	222 (2.9)	223 (2.2)	216 (2.6)	221 (3.5)	222 (1.6)	221 (1.9)
Nation	15 (1.8)	16 (1.8)	26 (2.5)	26 (2.7)	13 (2.4)	15 (2.0)	46 (3.4)	42 (2.5)
	212 (4.7)	205 (3.0)	218 (2.8)	206 (3.1)	211 (4.1)	211 (3.1)	210 (1.7)	209 (2.2)
Female								
State	7 (1.6)	12 (2.6)	22 (2.9)	32 (3.7)	18 (2.3)	16 (2.6)	53 (4.1)	40 (3.9)
	228 (4.7)!	218 (5.1)!	226 (2.9)	225 (2.9)	224 (2.3)	228 (3.4)	228 (1.4)	231 (1.6)
Nation	14 (2.0)	14 (1.5)	25 (2.3)	27 (2.6)	13 (2.4)	16 (2.1)	48 (3.4)	43 (2.5)
	222 (4.7)	214 (2.6)	224 (2.7)	218 (3.1)	221 (3.8)	224 (3.3)	217 (1.6)	220 (1.8)

The question associated with this variable was reformatted in 1994. No trend comparison tests were conducted.

The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500. The standard errors of the statistics appear in parentheses. It can be said with about 95 percent confidence that, for each population of interest, the value for the entire population is within ± 2 standard errors of the estimate for the sample. In comparing two estimates, one must use the standard error of the difference (see Appendix A for details). ! Interpret with caution — the nature of the sample does not allow accurate determination of the variability of this statistic. *** Sample size is insufficient to permit a reliable estimate.

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1994 Trial State Assessment

TABLE D8.1

Public School Students' Reports on the Frequency of Reading for Fun

	Almost Every Day		Once or Twice a Week		Once or Twice a Month		Never or Hardly Ever	
	1992	1994	1992	1994	1992	1994	1992	1994
	Percentage and Proficiency							
TOTAL								
State	46 (1.1) 231 (1.2)	49 (1.3) 230 (1.3)	34 (1.0) 221 (1.4)	30 (1.1) 223 (1.4)	10 (0.6) 216 (2.3)	11 (0.6) 221 (2.2)	10 (0.5) 205 (2.7)	10 (0.7) 204 (2.5)
Nation	43 (1.0) 221 (1.3)	45 (0.7) 221 (1.3)	32 (0.9) 217 (1.3)	31 (0.7) 212 (1.3) <	12 (0.5) 208 (1.8)	12 (0.5) 206 (2.3)	13 (0.6) 198 (2.0)	12 (0.4) 195 (2.0)
RACE/ ETHNICITY								
White								
State	47 (1.2) 235 (1.3)	49 (1.4) 235 (1.2)	34 (1.0) 223 (1.6)	30 (1.3) 226 (1.4)	10 (0.7) 218 (2.6)	11 (0.7) 225 (2.2)	9 (0.6) 210 (3.0)	9 (0.8) 207 (2.6)
Nation	44 (1.2) 230 (1.6)	46 (1.0) 231 (1.4)	32 (1.2) 225 (1.5)	30 (1.0) 222 (1.5)	12 (0.6) 215 (2.0)	12 (0.6) 216 (2.8)	12 (0.8) 204 (2.4)	12 (0.4) 202 (2.3)
Black								
State	39 (4.6) 205 (4.8)!	41 (4.1) *** (**.*)	38 (3.3) 199 (2.8)	35 (3.3) *** (**.*)	10 (2.1) *** (**.*)	10 (2.4) *** (**.*)	13 (2.9) *** (**.*)	13 (3.1) *** (**.*)
Nation	40 (1.7) 195 (2.2)	40 (1.4) 193 (2.0)	31 (1.6) 195 (2.5)	34 (1.5) 186 (2.6)	13 (1.2) 186 (3.9)	12 (0.9) 180 (4.1)	16 (1.6) 186 (3.8)	14 (1.3) 178 (3.3)
Hispanic								
State	44 (4.0) 213 (4.9)	46 (3.9) 204 (6.1)	33 (3.8) 213 (3.4)	31 (3.0) *** (**.*)	11 (2.2) *** (**.*)	11 (2.4) *** (**.*)	13 (2.4) *** (**.*)	12 (2.7) *** (**.*)
Nation	44 (2.1) 205 (2.5)	43 (1.9) 194 (3.3)	32 (1.9) 199 (3.2)	33 (1.0) 191 (3.5)	12 (1.3) 198 (6.3)	11 (1.2) 175 (6.2)	13 (1.1) 187 (4.6)	13 (1.4) 181 (4.5)
TYPE OF LOCATION								
Central City								
State	47 (1.9) 230 (2.7)	48 (2.0) 228 (3.1)	34 (2.0) 219 (2.0)	31 (2.0) 222 (2.4)	9 (0.9) 215 (5.2)	12 (1.0) 218 (3.7)	10 (1.1) 201 (5.0)	10 (1.1) 194 (5.0)
Nation	44 (1.6) 212 (1.9)	44 (1.5) 212 (2.4)	32 (1.7) 210 (2.0)	33 (0.8) 205 (2.5)	10 (0.8) 200 (2.9)	12 (0.7) 196 (3.5)	13 (0.9) 192 (2.6)	12 (0.9) 186 (3.5)
Urb Frng/Lrg Town								
State	46 (2.0) 233 (2.2)	51 (2.5) 233 (2.1)	34 (1.8) 221 (2.3)	31 (2.2) 222 (2.5)	10 (1.0) 217 (3.6)	10 (1.3) 218 (3.1)	10 (1.1) 206 (3.6)	9 (1.1) 208 (3.5)
Nation	44 (1.6) 227 (2.5)	46 (1.0) 226 (2.2)	32 (1.5) 220 (2.3)	31 (1.1) 216 (2.4)	12 (1.1) 213 (2.8)	12 (0.7) 212 (3.4)	12 (1.2) 200 (4.1)	11 (0.5) 205 (3.1)
Rural/Small Town								
State	45 (1.6) 232 (2.2)	48 (2.2) 231 (1.8)	33 (1.2) 222 (2.2)	30 (1.4) 224 (2.6)	12 (1.0) 215 (3.2)	12 (1.0) 225 (4.1)	10 (0.7) 208 (5.0)	10 (1.4) 210 (4.4)
Nation	42 (2.0) 223 (2.9)	43 (1.5) 223 (2.5)	31 (1.7) 220 (2.7)	30 (1.5) 214 (2.9)	13 (1.0) 208 (4.0)	13 (1.3) 210 (4.3)	14 (1.3) 202 (3.3)	14 (1.2) 191 (3.6)

(continued on next page)

TABLE D8.1 (continued)

Public School Students' Reports on the Frequency of Reading for Fun

	Almost Every Day		Once or Twice a Week		Once or Twice a Month		Never or Hardly Ever	
	1992	1994	1992	1994	1992	1994	1992	1994
	Percentage and Proficiency							
PARENTS' EDUCATION								
College graduate								
State	53 (1.7) 238 (2.1)	58 (2.2) 238 (1.7)	31 (1.6) 225 (2.3)	27 (1.9) 229 (2.2)	8 (0.9) 221 (3.2)	8 (0.8) 230 (3.6)	7 (0.9) 213 (4.6)	7 (1.0) *** (**.*)
Nation	48 (1.3) 230 (2.1)	49 (1.0) 230 (1.9)	32 (1.2) 223 (1.6)	31 (1.1) 219 (2.0)	10 (0.7) 213 (2.7)	10 (0.9) 214 (3.1)	10 (0.8) 205 (3.6)	9 (0.7) 205 (3.2)
Some ed after HS								
State	45 (2.8) 241 (2.7)	52 (3.2) 230 (3.6)	39 (3.1) 225 (3.4)	30 (3.1) 225 (3.7)	9 (1.6) *** (**.*)	14 (2.1) *** (**.*)	6 (1.3) *** (**.*)	5 (1.5) *** (**.*)
Nation	46 (2.7) 226 (3.1)	40 (2.5) 232 (2.4)	33 (3.0) 223 (2.6)	35 (2.4) 221 (3.5)	11 (1.8) *** (**.*)	13 (1.6) *** (**.*)	10 (1.6) *** (**.*)	12 (1.5) *** (**.*)
HS graduate								
State	44 (2.7) 227 (2.5)	47 (2.9) 228 (2.8)	33 (2.1) 217 (2.4)	30 (2.7) 222 (3.8)	14 (1.7) *** (**.*)	12 (1.6) *** (**.*)	8 (1.3) *** (**.*)	10 (2.1) *** (**.*)
Nation	38 (2.3) 218 (3.0)	40 (1.6) 215 (2.7)	34 (2.3) 211 (3.6)	34 (1.9) 205 (3.1)	15 (1.6) 204 (3.3)	14 (1.3) 202 (4.7)	13 (1.4) 198 (4.0)	11 (1.0) 196 (3.3)
HS non-graduate								
State	38 (6.5) *** (**.*)	39 (5.8) *** (**.*)	32 (5.2) *** (**.*)	28 (4.5) *** (**.*)	9 (3.2) *** (**.*)	20 (4.8) *** (**.*)	21 (5.7) *** (**.*)	13 (3.5) *** (**.*)
Nation	40 (3.3) 204 (4.3)	43 (3.1) 194 (4.2)	30 (3.3) 201 (4.8)	26 (2.4) 192 (5.1)	10 (2.1) *** (**.*)	13 (2.4) *** (**.*)	19 (3.5) *** (**.*)	18 (2.7) *** (**.*)
I don't know								
State	41 (1.5) 223 (1.6)	41 (1.8) 221 (2.3)	35 (1.6) 217 (2.2)	34 (1.7) 218 (2.0)	10 (0.9) 211 (4.2)	12 (1.1) 215 (2.9)	14 (1.0) 200 (3.3)	13 (1.2) 200 (3.6)
Nation	40 (1.6) 214 (1.7)	42 (1.1) 212 (1.4)	31 (1.6) 213 (1.8)	31 (1.1) 206 (2.0)	13 (0.9) 204 (2.9)	13 (0.9) 200 (3.7)	16 (1.1) 196 (2.3)	15 (0.9) 190 (2.8)
GENDER								
Male								
State	36 (1.3) 230 (1.9)	38 (1.8) 227 (1.7)	36 (1.2) 220 (1.6)	34 (1.6) 222 (1.7)	14 (1.0) 215 (2.5)	15 (1.0) 221 (2.4)	14 (0.9) 206 (3.4)	13 (1.1) 205 (2.8)
Nation	36 (1.3) 216 (1.7)	36 (1.0) 216 (1.9)	33 (1.3) 215 (1.8)	32 (1.0) 208 (1.6) <	14 (0.7) 208 (2.3)	15 (0.7) 202 (2.5)	17 (1.0) 198 (2.8)	16 (0.6) 195 (2.1)
Female								
State	57 (1.6) 232 (1.3)	59 (1.8) 232 (1.7)	31 (1.2) 222 (1.9)	27 (1.5) 224 (1.9)	6 (0.7) 218 (3.3)	7 (0.7) 220 (3.9)	6 (0.7) 204 (3.7)	6 (0.8) 201 (4.3)
Nation	51 (1.3) 225 (1.4)	53 (1.1) 225 (1.3)	30 (1.1) 219 (1.4)	31 (0.9) 216 (1.7)	9 (0.6) 207 (3.1)	9 (0.8) 213 (3.8)	9 (0.7) 198 (2.7)	7 (0.5) 193 (3.5)

The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500. The standard errors of the statistics appear in parentheses. It can be said with about 95 percent confidence that, for each population of interest, the value for the entire population is within ± 2 standard errors of the estimate for the sample. In comparing two estimates, one must use the standard error of the difference (see Appendix A for details). If the notation > (<) appears, it signifies that the value for public school students in 1994 was significantly higher (lower) than the value for 1992 at about the 95 percent confidence level. ! Interpret with caution — the nature of the sample does not allow accurate determination of the variability of this statistic. *** Sample size is insufficient to permit a reliable estimate.

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TABLE D8.2

Public School Students' Reports on the Number of Books Read Outside of School in the Past Month

	None		One or Two		Three or Four		Five or More	
	1992	1994	1992	1994	1992	1994	1992	1994
	Percentage and Proficiency							
TOTAL								
State	6 (0.5)	6 (0.5)	22 (0.8)	27 (1.1) >	25 (0.9)	25 (1.1)	46 (1.0)	43 (1.2)
	207 (3.7)	208 (3.3)	221 (1.4)	221 (1.7)	225 (1.5)	227 (1.9)	226 (1.3)	227 (1.4)
Nation	7 (0.4)	9 (0.6)	25 (0.8)	26 (0.8)	24 (0.7)	23 (0.6)	44 (1.0)	42 (0.8)
	196 (2.6)	192 (2.5)	214 (1.6)	211 (1.5)	219 (1.6)	216 (1.8)	217 (1.3)	215 (1.4)
RACE/ ETHNICITY								
White								
State	5 (0.5)	5 (0.6)	23 (0.9)	27 (1.2)	26 (1.0)	26 (1.2)	46 (1.2)	43 (1.2)
	209 (4.0)	211 (4.0)	224 (1.4)	225 (1.6)	229 (1.6)	231 (1.7)	230 (1.4)	230 (1.4)
Nation	6 (0.6)	8 (0.7)	27 (1.1)	28 (1.0)	25 (0.9)	24 (0.8)	42 (1.4)	40 (0.9)
	204 (3.5)	202 (3.2)	221 (1.7)	220 (1.8)	226 (1.9)	226 (2.1)	225 (1.6)	227 (1.6)
Black								
State	3 (1.3)	8 (2.3)	23 (2.4)	24 (2.7)	22 (2.3)	18 (4.2)	53 (3.1)	50 (4.9)
	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	204 (2.9)	*** (**.*)
Nation	10 (1.1)	10 (1.2)	20 (1.5)	22 (1.4)	20 (1.4)	21 (1.2)	49 (1.8)	47 (1.8)
	178 (4.5)	169 (3.4)	188 (3.8)	182 (2.4)	193 (3.1)	185 (3.8)	196 (2.1)	192 (2.5)
Hispanic								
State	10 (2.1)	9 (2.4)	25 (3.0)	30 (3.3)	27 (3.0)	19 (3.5)	39 (3.9)	42 (3.9)
	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	211 (3.9)	208 (6.2)
Nation	8 (1.1)	10 (0.9)	24 (1.8)	23 (2.1)	22 (1.8)	23 (1.8)	46 (2.5)	45 (2.4)
	189 (4.3)	177 (5.9)	193 (3.4)	185 (4.3)	202 (3.0)	193 (4.0)	204 (2.9)	190 (3.4) <
TYPE OF LOCATION								
Central City								
State	5 (0.8)	6 (0.7)	21 (1.6)	27 (1.8)	28 (1.2)	24 (1.5)	46 (1.9)	43 (1.9)
	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	218 (3.0)	215 (3.6)	226 (2.7)	224 (4.0)	223 (2.7)	228 (2.4)
Nation	7 (0.6)	9 (0.7)	24 (0.9)	25 (1.2)	22 (1.0)	22 (0.9)	46 (1.5)	45 (1.3)
	191 (4.2)	183 (4.4)	205 (2.4)	201 (2.9)	210 (2.9)	207 (3.6)	210 (1.9)	208 (2.4)
Urb Frng/Lrg Town								
State	6 (0.9)	4 (0.8)	26 (1.3)	29 (2.1)	24 (1.8)	24 (1.5)	44 (2.3)	43 (2.2)
	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	222 (2.5)	224 (2.0)	228 (2.6)	227 (3.7)	227 (2.6)	228 (2.4)
Nation	7 (0.8)	7 (0.7)	26 (1.6)	26 (1.2)	24 (0.9)	25 (0.9)	43 (1.7)	42 (1.4)
	201 (4.7)	200 (3.5)	218 (2.5)	218 (2.3)	224 (3.1)	222 (2.9)	221 (2.4)	221 (2.3)
Rural/Small Town								
State	6 (0.8)	7 (1.1)	22 (1.2)	24 (1.7)	24 (1.5)	25 (2.5)	48 (1.7)	44 (2.2)
	210 (5.6)	*** (**.*)	223 (2.7)	225 (2.4)	224 (2.1)	231 (2.4)	227 (2.1)	226 (2.2)
Nation	8 (1.0)	11 (1.9)	26 (1.7)	29 (2.1)	24 (1.8)	22 (1.4)	42 (2.2)	39 (2.0)
	194 (5.3)	193 (4.1)!	217 (2.9)	213 (2.9)	219 (2.7)	216 (3.0)	221 (3.0)	218 (2.3)

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TABLE D8.2 (continued)

Public School Students' Reports on the Number of Books Read Outside of School in the Past Month

	None		One or Two		Three or Four		Five or More	
	1992	1994	1992	1994	1992	1994	1992	1994
	Percentage and Proficiency							
PARENTS' EDUCATION								
College graduate								
State	3 (0.6)	4 (0.6)	22 (1.4)	24 (1.7)	27 (1.7)	26 (1.7)	48 (1.9)	47 (1.7)
	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	228 (2.5)	229 (2.9)	233 (2.0)	235 (2.8)	233 (2.1)	235 (1.6)
Nation	6 (0.6)	6 (0.6)	22 (1.1)	24 (1.1)	26 (1.3)	24 (1.0)	47 (1.4)	46 (1.1)
	202 (5.2)	202 (3.5)	222 (1.7)	221 (2.0)	227 (2.0)	227 (2.3)	224 (2.2)	224 (1.6)
Some ed after HS								
State	5 (1.4)	5 (1.7)	25 (2.5)	21 (3.0)	24 (2.3)	31 (3.6)	45 (2.6)	43 (3.3)
	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	232 (3.9)	*** (**.*)	234 (4.5)	231 (4.1)	233 (2.4)	229 (3.5)
Nation	8 (1.3)	7 (1.1)	25 (2.4)	25 (2.4)	25 (2.4)	25 (2.4)	41 (2.5)	43 (2.7)
	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	227 (4.5)	219 (4.5)	222 (3.2)	222 (3.3)	223 (3.3)	225 (2.8)
HS graduate								
State	7 (1.3)	5 (1.4)	21 (2.3)	26 (1.9)	27 (2.1)	26 (2.5)	45 (2.4)	43 (2.4)
	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	219 (3.0)	220 (3.9)	216 (4.0)	224 (4.2)	224 (2.2)	224 (2.9)
Nation	7 (1.1)	10 (1.6)	28 (2.4)	30 (1.9)	24 (2.1)	24 (1.6)	41 (2.8)	36 (1.5)
	*** (**.*)	191 (5.7)	211 (2.5)	204 (2.9)	212 (4.5)	210 (4.1)	214 (2.6)	211 (2.9)
HS non-graduate								
State	11 (3.9)	11 (3.2)	26 (6.2)	28 (5.2)	21 (4.9)	20 (3.9)	42 (5.0)	41 (5.5)
	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)
Nation	13 (2.4)	14 (2.6)	27 (3.4)	29 (3.3)	21 (2.9)	17 (2.2)	40 (3.6)	40 (2.6)
	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	192 (6.3)	192 (6.2)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	198 (4.4)	189 (5.4)
I don't know								
State	7 (0.9)	8 (1.0)	23 (1.4)	31 (1.8) >	24 (1.5)	22 (1.7)	46 (1.7)	40 (1.7)
	202 (4.6)	203 (4.8)	213 (2.5)	216 (2.4)	221 (2.4)	219 (2.6)	219 (2.1)	218 (2.5)
Nation	8 (0.7)	11 (0.9)	28 (1.1)	27 (1.1)	21 (0.8)	22 (1.0)	43 (1.5)	40 (1.4)
	191 (4.0)	188 (4.1)	208 (2.4)	206 (2.4)	211 (2.1)	207 (2.8)	211 (1.8)	207 (1.9)
GENDER								
Male								
State	8 (0.8)	8 (1.0)	25 (1.1)	31 (1.5) >	25 (1.2)	24 (1.5)	42 (1.4)	37 (1.5)
	207 (4.7)	212 (3.8)	220 (1.9)	219 (2.2)	223 (1.9)	225 (2.6)	223 (1.7)	223 (1.8)
Nation	10 (0.8)	12 (0.9)	27 (1.2)	29 (1.2)	24 (1.0)	22 (0.7)	39 (1.2)	37 (1.0)
	197 (2.8)	193 (3.2)	212 (2.2)	207 (1.9)	216 (2.1)	212 (2.2)	212 (1.7)	210 (1.8)
Female								
State	4 (0.6)	4 (0.6)	20 (1.2)	22 (1.4)	26 (1.2)	25 (1.4)	51 (1.5)	49 (1.5)
	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	222 (2.1)	224 (2.5)	228 (1.9)	230 (2.4)	228 (1.4)	230 (1.7)
Nation	4 (0.4)	5 (0.4)	23 (1.1)	23 (0.9)	24 (1.1)	25 (0.8)	49 (1.3)	47 (1.2)
	192 (4.8)	190 (3.7)	216 (1.8)	217 (1.9)	222 (1.7)	220 (2.0)	222 (1.4)	220 (1.5)

The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500. The standard errors of the statistics appear in parentheses. It can be said with about 95 percent confidence that, for each population of interest, the value for the entire population is within ± 2 standard errors of the estimate for the sample. In comparing two estimates, one must use the standard error of the difference (see Appendix A for details). If the notation > (<) appears, it signifies that the value for public school students in 1994 was significantly higher (lower) than the value for 1992 at about the 95 percent confidence level. ! Interpret with caution — the nature of the sample does not allow accurate determination of the variability of this statistic. *** Sample size is insufficient to permit a reliable estimate.

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TABLE D8.3

Public School Students' Reports on the Frequency of Taking Books Out of the Library for Their Own Enjoyment

	Almost Every Day		Once or Twice a Week		Once or Twice a Month		Never or Hardly Ever	
	1992	1994	1992	1994	1992	1994	1992	1994
	Percentage and Proficiency							
TOTAL								
State	17 (0.8)	17 (0.8)	51 (1.2)	54 (1.3)	21 (1.0)	18 (0.9)	11 (0.8)	11 (0.6)
	219 (2.1)	221 (2.1)	228 (1.1)	227 (1.3)	224 (1.3)	227 (1.7)	210 (2.4)	215 (2.3)
Nation	15 (0.6)	16 (0.5)	48 (0.9)	47 (0.8)	22 (0.8)	21 (0.8)	15 (0.7)	16 (0.7)
	211 (1.7)	207 (1.9)	219 (1.2)	220 (1.2)	219 (1.4)	215 (1.7)	202 (1.8)	198 (2.1)
RACE/ ETHNICITY								
White								
State	16 (0.8)	16 (0.8)	51 (1.4)	55 (1.5)	22 (1.2)	19 (1.0)	11 (0.8)	10 (0.7)
	224 (2.2)	226 (1.7)	231 (1.2)	230 (1.4)	227 (1.5)	230 (1.9)	214 (2.4)	218 (2.5)
Nation	13 (0.7)	15 (0.6)	50 (1.1)	49 (0.9)	24 (1.1)	22 (0.8)	14 (0.8)	14 (0.7)
	221 (2.1)	218 (2.6)	226 (1.5)	228 (1.3)	226 (1.8)	223 (1.8)	211 (2.3)	210 (2.5)
Black								
State	23 (2.9)	18 (3.1)	50 (5.5)	53 (5.1)	17 (3.1)	16 (4.9)	11 (2.9)	13 (2.4)
	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	206 (3.2)!	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)
Nation	20 (1.3)	20 (1.2)	42 (1.7)	41 (1.6)	17 (1.3)	18 (1.4)	20 (1.6)	20 (1.6)
	192 (2.8)	184 (3.1)	196 (2.4)	194 (2.0)	195 (3.4)	193 (3.3)	183 (3.3)	172 (2.6)
Hispanic								
State	21 (3.1)	23 (3.9)	48 (3.8)	50 (4.2)	17 (2.5)	14 (2.7)	15 (3.3)	14 (2.5)
	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	217 (2.6)	207 (4.6)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)
Nation	19 (1.6)	19 (1.5)	47 (1.6)	40 (1.8) <	17 (1.2)	19 (1.4)	17 (1.5)	21 (1.6)
	200 (4.3)	188 (4.1)	204 (2.8)	196 (2.8)	200 (3.4)	188 (4.4)	191 (3.4)	181 (6.1)
TYPE OF LOCATION								
Central City								
State	19 (1.3)	18 (1.4)	50 (1.9)	52 (2.4)	20 (1.4)	20 (1.7)	11 (1.4)	10 (1.0)
	217 (3.9)	218 (4.9)	227 (2.1)	224 (2.8)	222 (2.7)	225 (2.4)	205 (4.8)	206 (4.7)
Nation	16 (0.8)	17 (1.0)	45 (1.2)	45 (1.5)	21 (1.0)	21 (1.6)	18 (1.2)	18 (1.4)
	204 (2.2)	197 (2.3)	212 (1.7)	214 (2.0)	213 (2.4)	209 (3.6)	195 (2.3)	184 (3.3)
Urb Frng/Lrg Town								
State	15 (1.5)	14 (1.6)	50 (2.2)	57 (2.4)	23 (1.8)	19 (1.9)	11 (1.8)	11 (1.7)
	221 (2.9)	224 (2.6)	230 (2.1)	228 (2.0)	222 (2.0)	226 (2.6)	213 (3.9)!	221 (3.5)
Nation	14 (0.9)	16 (0.8)	48 (1.2)	49 (1.5)	24 (1.3)	22 (1.1)	13 (0.9)	14 (0.8)
	215 (3.4)	214 (3.0)	223 (2.5)	224 (2.3)	224 (2.4)	220 (2.6)	208 (3.4)	208 (3.2)
Rural/Small Town								
State	17 (1.2)	17 (1.4)	52 (2.5)	55 (2.0)	20 (2.0)	17 (1.3)	12 (1.0)	12 (0.9)
	220 (3.9)	222 (2.3)	228 (2.0)	229 (1.8)	227 (2.7)	230 (2.9)	210 (4.6)	217 (3.5)
Nation	15 (1.2)	15 (1.2)	52 (2.5)	47 (1.9)	19 (2.0)	20 (1.4)	15 (1.5)	18 (1.4)
	215 (3.3)	208 (5.0)	222 (2.9)	220 (2.2)	218 (4.1)	215 (3.0)	205 (3.0)	204 (2.9)

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TABLE D8.3 (continued)

Public School Students' Reports on the Frequency of Taking Books Out of the Library for Their Own Enjoyment

	Almost Every Day		Once or Twice a Week		Once or Twice a Month		Never or Hardly Ever	
	1992	1994	1992	1994	1992	1994	1992	1994
	Percentage and Proficiency							
PARENTS' EDUCATION								
College graduate								
State	17 (1.1) 224 (3.5)	17 (1.5) 235 (2.8)	54 (1.8) 236 (1.4)	53 (2.2) 234 (1.8)	20 (1.5) 230 (2.9)	21 (1.6) 234 (3.0)	8 (0.7) 218 (4.3)	8 (1.1) 225 (4.0)
Nation	16 (1.1) 217 (2.7)	17 (0.8) 217 (2.7)	48 (1.5) 228 (2.0)	48 (1.2) 229 (1.7)	23 (1.3) 228 (1.9)	22 (1.1) 223 (2.3)	12 (0.9) 209 (2.5)	13 (0.8) 207 (3.0)
Some ed after HS								
State	19 (2.7) *** (**.*)	18 (2.8) *** (**.*)	53 (2.9) 236 (2.6)	61 (3.9) 230 (3.0)	18 (2.0) *** (**.*)	14 (2.3) *** (**.*)	11 (1.8) *** (**.*)	8 (1.8) *** (**.*)
Nation	13 (2.0) *** (**.*)	15 (1.7) 216 (5.8)	56 (2.8) 222 (2.5)	50 (3.0) 226 (2.4)	21 (2.4) 226 (6.0)	21 (2.1) 222 (4.5)	11 (1.8) *** (**.*)	13 (1.8) *** (**.*)
HS graduate								
State	15 (1.7) 222 (3.6)	20 (1.9) 216 (4.2)	55 (2.4) 222 (2.0)	55 (2.8) 224 (3.1)	19 (1.9) 220 (4.3)	14 (1.8) *** (**.*)	12 (1.5) *** (**.*)	10 (2.2) *** (**.*)
Nation	16 (1.6) 206 (4.8)	17 (1.4) 204 (4.1)	47 (2.4) 216 (2.4)	47 (1.5) 215 (2.7)	21 (2.0) 214 (2.7)	19 (1.8) 205 (3.1)	16 (1.9) 201 (4.6)	18 (1.5) 193 (3.5)
HS non-graduate								
State	17 (3.7) *** (**.*)	10 (3.1) *** (**.*)	49 (6.7) *** (**.*)	53 (5.7) *** (**.*)	20 (5.3) *** (**.*)	19 (4.2) *** (**.*)	14 (4.3) *** (**.*)	18 (4.7) *** (**.*)
Nation	19 (2.9) *** (**.*)	18 (2.2) *** (**.*)	40 (3.5) 203 (4.3)	46 (3.6) 194 (4.9)	18 (2.4) *** (**.*)	19 (3.1) *** (**.*)	22 (2.6) *** (**.*)	17 (2.8) *** (**.*)
I don't know								
State	17 (1.4) 211 (2.9)	16 (1.3) 208 (3.4)	46 (1.8) 221 (1.9)	53 (1.8) 221 (1.7)	23 (1.5) 220 (2.1)	18 (1.6) 218 (2.8)	14 (1.5) 202 (3.1)	13 (1.2) 207 (3.6)
Nation	13 (0.9) 206 (2.9)	14 (1.0) 193 (2.9) <	48 (1.1) 213 (1.9)	45 (1.2) 213 (1.7)	21 (1.2) 212 (2.1)	21 (1.2) 211 (2.3)	18 (1.0) 199 (2.5)	20 (1.2) 193 (3.2)
GENDER								
Male								
State	15 (1.0) 216 (2.1)	15 (1.0) 219 (2.5)	50 (1.4) 225 (1.5)	51 (1.7) 223 (1.6)	22 (1.3) 222 (2.0)	21 (1.3) 224 (2.3)	13 (1.0) 208 (3.0)	13 (0.9) 214 (3.0)
Nation	13 (0.7) 206 (2.8)	15 (0.7) 199 (2.6)	46 (1.1) 215 (1.6)	44 (1.1) 216 (1.6)	24 (1.2) 216 (1.7)	23 (1.0) 212 (2.4)	16 (0.9) 200 (2.3)	19 (1.0) 193 (2.2)
Female								
State	19 (1.0) 222 (2.8)	19 (1.1) 222 (2.8)	52 (1.7) 231 (1.3)	57 (1.7) 230 (1.7)	20 (1.4) 226 (2.1)	16 (1.2) 231 (2.5)	10 (1.0) 211 (3.4)	8 (0.7) 216 (3.6)
Nation	16 (1.0) 216 (1.9)	17 (0.7) 213 (2.4)	51 (1.2) 223 (1.5)	51 (0.9) 224 (1.4)	19 (1.0) 222 (2.2)	19 (0.9) 219 (2.1)	14 (0.9) 205 (2.3)	13 (0.7) 205 (3.4)

The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500. The standard errors of the statistics appear in parentheses. It can be said with about 95 percent confidence that, for each population of interest, the value for the entire population is within ± 2 standard errors of the estimate for the sample. In comparing two estimates, one must use the standard error of the difference (see Appendix A for details). If the notation > (<) appears, it signifies that the value for public school students in 1994 was significantly higher (lower) than the value for 1992 at about the 95 percent confidence level. ! Interpret with caution — the nature of the sample does not allow accurate determination of the variability of this statistic. *** Sample size is insufficient to permit a reliable estimate.

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TABLE D8.4

Public School Students' Reports on Types of Reading Materials in the Home

	Zero to Two Types		Three Types		Four Types	
	1992	1994	1992	1994	1992	1994
	Percentage and Proficiency					
TOTAL						
State	23 (1.0) 214 (1.5)	25 (1.4) 213 (2.0)	36 (0.9) 223 (1.5)	34 (1.1) 225 (1.4)	40 (1.2) 231 (1.2)	41 (1.3) 230 (1.5)
Nation	33 (0.9) 203 (0.9)	30 (0.9) 196 (1.5) <	32 (0.7) 217 (1.5)	34 (0.7) 214 (1.3)	36 (1.0) 224 (1.4)	36 (0.9) 225 (1.2)
RACE/ ETHNICITY						
White						
State	21 (1.1) 219 (1.7)	21 (1.3) 221 (2.0)	36 (1.1) 226 (1.6)	35 (1.2) 227 (1.4)	43 (1.2) 233 (1.2)	43 (1.3) 233 (1.6)
Nation	26 (1.0) 213 (1.5)	24 (1.0) 208 (1.8)	33 (0.8) 225 (1.9)	35 (0.9) 222 (1.8)	41 (1.3) 228 (1.6)	40 (1.2) 233 (1.5)
Black						
State	35 (3.2) *** (**.*)	47 (8.2) *** (**.*)	39 (3.3) 203 (4.3)	26 (5.2) *** (**.*)	26 (3.8) *** (**.*)	27 (4.6) *** (**.*)
Nation	49 (2.2) 187 (2.4)	39 (2.4) < 179 (2.0)	28 (1.6) 193 (2.7)	32 (1.5) 186 (2.4)	23 (2.0) 201 (2.4)	28 (2.0) 195 (2.8)
Hispanic						
State	30 (3.9) 202 (5.1)	43 (5.3) 190 (5.7)!	38 (3.7) 210 (4.6)	29 (4.1) *** (**.*)	32 (3.3) 218 (4.6)	27 (3.7) *** (**.*)
Nation	47 (1.9) 190 (2.5)	46 (2.6) 176 (3.5) <	32 (2.1) 205 (2.8)	28 (2.1) 198 (3.1)	21 (1.8) 213 (3.7)	26 (1.7) 201 (3.7)
TYPE OF LOCATION						
Central City						
State	23 (2.0) 207 (3.3)	28 (2.9) 205 (3.6)	37 (1.5) 221 (2.1)	35 (2.1) 225 (2.6)	40 (2.6) 232 (2.7)	37 (2.3) 229 (2.3)
Nation	40 (1.7) 196 (1.6)	33 (1.7) 189 (2.6)	33 (1.4) 210 (2.5)	31 (0.9) 204 (2.5)	28 (1.8) 220 (1.9)	35 (1.7) > 217 (2.6)
Urb Frng/Lrg Town						
State	22 (2.3) 217 (3.2)	24 (1.9) 218 (3.1)	37 (1.3) 225 (1.9)	35 (1.5) 226 (2.5)	41 (2.3) 231 (2.2)	42 (2.0) 230 (3.4)
Nation	28 (1.6) 207 (2.3)	27 (1.2) 201 (3.1)	32 (1.2) 222 (2.5)	35 (1.1) 221 (1.9)	39 (1.8) 227 (2.7)	38 (1.5) 230 (2.1)
Rural/Small Town						
State	24 (1.5) 218 (2.2)	24 (2.4) 219 (2.7)	35 (1.7) 223 (2.9)	33 (1.9) 224 (2.2)	41 (1.8) 230 (1.7)	43 (2.3) 231 (1.9)
Nation	30 (2.4) 207 (2.5)	31 (2.1) 200 (2.6)	30 (1.0) 220 (3.1)	35 (1.5) 214 (2.7)	40 (2.6) 223 (2.9)	34 (2.0) 227 (2.1)

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TABLE D8.4 (continued)

Public School Students' Reports on Types of Reading Materials in the Home

	Zero to Two Types		Three Types		Four Types	
	1992	1994	1992	1994	1992	1994
	Percentage and Proficiency					
PARENTS' EDUCATION						
College graduate						
State	14 (1.3)	16 (1.4)	33 (1.7)	33 (1.5)	52 (2.1)	51 (1.8)
	220 (2.9)	222 (4.1)	228 (2.1)	232 (2.3)	236 (1.9)	236 (1.9)
Nation	21 (1.2)	18 (1.0)	30 (1.0)	33 (1.2)	49 (1.2)	49 (1.5)
	208 (2.2)	205 (2.8)	223 (2.1)	220 (1.8)	230 (1.8)	230 (1.5)
Some ed after HS						
State	22 (2.5)	24 (2.8)	41 (3.4)	29 (3.3)	37 (3.5)	46 (4.0)
	228 (3.9)	*** (**.*)	230 (3.3)	234 (4.4)	237 (2.5)	229 (3.6)
Nation	32 (2.5)	24 (3.3)	32 (2.3)	38 (2.7)	36 (2.4)	38 (2.6)
	212 (2.5)	211 (4.1)	222 (3.4)	221 (3.4)	230 (3.5)	230 (2.7)
HS graduate						
State	24 (2.5)	26 (2.4)	38 (2.4)	34 (2.7)	38 (2.4)	40 (2.5)
	214 (2.7)	220 (4.5)	220 (2.4)	219 (3.1)	222 (2.3)	227 (3.4)
Nation	36 (2.2)	33 (2.0)	32 (2.0)	39 (1.7)	32 (2.5)	28 (1.9)
	204 (2.5)	195 (3.0)	214 (3.6)	212 (3.2)	215 (2.3)	212 (3.2)
HS non-graduate						
State	41 (6.2)	41 (6.0)	37 (5.8)	36 (6.0)	22 (4.6)	22 (4.8)
	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)
Nation	63 (4.0)	58 (3.3)	26 (3.2)	27 (2.2)	12 (2.3)	15 (3.1)
	192 (3.2)	181 (4.6)	202 (6.2)	193 (6.0)	*** (**.*)	*** (**.*)
I don't know						
State	31 (1.7)	33 (2.3)	37 (1.6)	37 (2.2)	32 (1.6)	30 (2.1)
	209 (2.0)	207 (2.8)	218 (2.5)	220 (2.1)	225 (2.2)	223 (2.2)
Nation	40 (1.5)	41 (1.3)	34 (1.1)	33 (1.1)	26 (1.4)	27 (1.4)
	200 (1.6)	193 (1.9)	215 (2.3)	209 (1.9)	216 (2.1)	218 (1.8)
GENDER						
Male						
State	22 (1.5)	23 (1.8)	35 (1.3)	33 (1.5)	43 (1.9)	43 (1.7)
	208 (2.0)	208 (2.1)	220 (2.0)	223 (1.9)	229 (1.5)	227 (1.9)
Nation	31 (1.1)	28 (1.0)	32 (1.1)	34 (1.0)	38 (1.4)	38 (1.2)
	198 (1.7)	188 (1.8) <	213 (2.0)	208 (1.9)	221 (1.7)	220 (1.5)
Female						
State	25 (1.3)	27 (1.7)	37 (1.3)	35 (1.4)	38 (1.4)	38 (1.7)
	219 (2.0)	218 (2.8)	225 (1.6)	227 (1.6)	233 (1.7)	234 (1.8)
Nation	34 (1.3)	32 (1.3)	32 (0.9)	33 (1.0)	34 (1.1)	35 (1.2)
	207 (1.2)	203 (1.8)	222 (1.8)	221 (1.4)	228 (1.7)	231 (1.6)

The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500. The standard errors of the statistics appear in parentheses. It can be said with about 95 percent confidence that, for each population of interest, the value for the entire population is within ± 2 standard errors of the estimate for the sample. In comparing two estimates, one must use the standard error of the difference (see Appendix A for details). If the notation > (<) appears, it signifies that the value for public school students in 1994 was significantly higher (lower) than the value for 1992 at about the 95 percent confidence level. ' Interpret with caution — the nature of the sample does not allow accurate determination of the variability of this statistic. *** Sample size is insufficient to permit a reliable estimate.

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TABLE D8.5

Public School Students' Reports on Talking With Friends and Family About Reading

	Almost Every Day		Once or Twice a Week		Less Than Weekly	
	1992	1994	1992	1994	1992	1994
	Percentage and Proficiency					
TOTAL						
State	22 (0.7) 223 (1.6)	23 (0.9) 222 (1.7)	38 (0.9) 229 (1.1)	40 (1.1) 229 (1.5)	40 (1.0) 219 (1.5)	37 (1.1) 221 (1.4)
Nation	27 (0.7) 213 (1.5)	28 (0.7) 211 (1.4)	35 (1.0) 222 (1.2)	35 (0.7) 221 (1.4)	38 (1.2) 210 (1.3)	37 (0.8) 208 (1.5)
RACE/ ETHNICITY						
White						
State	21 (0.9) 228 (1.7)	23 (1.0) 227 (1.9)	38 (0.9) 232 (1.2)	40 (1.2) 233 (1.5)	40 (1.1) 222 (1.5)	37 (1.2) 224 (1.5)
Nation	24 (0.8) 224 (1.9)	25 (0.9) 223 (1.7)	38 (1.3) 230 (1.4)	37 (0.8) 229 (1.7)	39 (1.5) 217 (1.6)	38 (1.1) 216 (1.7)
Black						
State	30 (3.0) *** (**.*)	36 (4.9) *** (**.*)	35 (4.0) *** (**.*)	37 (4.1) *** (**.*)	34 (3.6) *** (**.*)	27 (5.4) *** (**.*)
Nation	36 (1.6) 193 (2.0)	38 (1.7) 187 (2.5)	27 (1.6) 196 (3.7)	31 (1.8) 192 (2.1)	36 (1.7) 190 (2.6)	31 (1.4) 183 (2.4)
Hispanic						
State	26 (3.4) *** (**.*)	26 (3.3) *** (**.*)	36 (2.9) 219 (4.0)	38 (3.6) 212 (4.8)	38 (3.3) 206 (5.3)	36 (3.8) 203 (5.5)
Nation	31 (1.9) 199 (2.4)	33 (1.7) 189 (3.7)	34 (1.6) 204 (3.2)	29 (1.4) 192 (4.1)	35 (1.9) 198 (2.6)	38 (1.9) 187 (3.4)
TYPE OF LOCATION						
Central City						
State	24 (1.4) 219 (3.1)	25 (1.5) 217 (3.1)	40 (1.8) 227 (2.8)	40 (2.0) 228 (3.0)	36 (2.1) 217 (2.8)	36 (2.1) 217 (2.8)
Nation	29 (1.3) 205 (2.2)	30 (1.2) 202 (2.5)	32 (1.1) 214 (2.3)	33 (1.4) 211 (2.6)	39 (1.7) 205 (1.6)	37 (1.3) 202 (2.5)
Urb Frng/Lrg Town						
State	22 (1.4) 224 (2.7)	20 (1.3) 223 (3.0)	37 (1.8) 230 (2.1)	41 (1.5) 231 (2.3)	41 (1.7) 221 (2.5)	39 (2.3) 222 (2.3)
Nation	25 (1.1) 219 (3.0)	27 (1.1) 217 (2.7)	37 (1.6) 226 (2.2)	37 (0.9) 227 (2.1)	38 (1.5) 215 (2.5)	36 (1.3) 214 (2.4)
Rural/Small Town						
State	21 (1.2) 224 (2.9)	25 (1.8) 224 (3.1)	37 (1.2) 230 (1.6)	39 (2.1) 229 (2.4)	43 (1.3) 219 (2.4)	36 (1.6) < 225 (2.4)
Nation	27 (1.2) 216 (3.4)	28 (1.7) 214 (3.8)	36 (1.8) 226 (2.9)	34 (1.1) 223 (3.3)	37 (2.3) 211 (2.8)	38 (1.9) 207 (2.7)

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TABLE D8.5 (continued)

Public School Students' Reports on Talking With Friends and Family About Reading

	Almost Every Day		Once or Twice a Week		Less Than Weekly	
	1992	1994	1992	1994	1992	1994
			Percentage and Proficiency			
PARENTS' EDUCATION						
College graduate						
State	23 (1.4) 230 (2.8)	26 (1.5) 230 (1.9)	41 (1.4) 236 (1.9)	43 (2.0) 238 (1.8)	35 (1.6) 227 (2.2)	32 (1.6) 229 (2.8)
Nation	27 (1.0) 221 (2.2)	30 (0.9) 219 (2.0)	40 (1.5) 230 (2.0)	38 (1.1) 231 (1.7)	33 (1.6) 218 (2.2)	33 (1.1) 217 (2.1)
Some ed after HS						
State	23 (2.7) 232 (5.0)	22 (2.9) *** (**.*)	44 (3.0) 238 (2.5)	41 (3.2) 233 (3.4)	33 (3.5) 225 (3.7)	38 (3.7) 225 (4.2)
Nation	28 (2.6) 221 (4.3)	28 (2.5) 215 (4.1)	36 (2.0) 228 (3.2)	41 (2.5) 227 (3.0)	36 (2.2) 216 (3.2)	31 (2.2) 223 (3.3)
HS graduate						
State	22 (2.2) 219 (3.1)	26 (2.1) 217 (4.8)	36 (2.1) 222 (2.2)	42 (3.0) 227 (3.3)	42 (2.1) 218 (1.9)	32 (2.6) 223 (2.8)
Nation	31 (1.9) 210 (3.7)	32 (2.2) 207 (3.8)	31 (2.2) 219 (3.4)	32 (2.0) 212 (2.9)	38 (2.5) 207 (2.7)	36 (2.0) 205 (2.5)
HS non-graduate						
State	19 (4.1) *** (**.*)	23 (4.5) *** (**.*)	35 (6.0) *** (**.*)	37 (5.3) *** (**.*)	46 (6.7) *** (**.*)	40 (5.4) *** (**.*)
Nation	32 (3.8) 201 (4.8)	27 (3.2) 191 (6.0)	27 (2.9) 200 (4.9)	27 (2.8) 192 (7.2)	41 (4.1) 195 (4.6)	46 (3.4) 184 (5.9)
I don't know						
State	21 (1.2) 214 (2.7)	21 (1.4) 214 (2.9)	33 (1.5) 223 (1.9)	36 (1.7) 220 (2.0)	46 (1.5) 213 (2.0)	43 (1.6) 215 (2.1)
Nation	24 (1.1) 206 (2.7)	25 (1.1) 203 (2.2)	33 (1.5) 215 (1.7)	33 (1.0) 212 (2.0)	43 (1.4) 207 (1.5)	42 (1.5) 202 (1.9)
GENDER						
Male						
State	19 (0.9) 222 (2.2)	20 (1.5) 217 (2.4)	35 (1.0) 226 (1.5)	38 (1.7) 226 (1.7)	46 (1.1) 217 (2.0)	42 (1.6) 220 (1.6)
Nation	24 (1.0) 209 (2.1)	25 (0.9) 205 (1.9)	33 (1.6) 219 (1.7)	32 (0.8) 217 (1.8)	43 (1.7) 208 (1.7)	42 (1.1) 203 (1.9)
Female						
State	25 (1.2) 223 (1.9)	26 (1.3) 225 (2.3)	40 (1.2) 232 (1.6)	42 (1.4) 232 (2.1)	35 (1.6) 222 (1.8)	32 (1.3) 223 (2.4)
Nation	29 (1.0) 217 (1.5)	31 (1.0) 215 (1.9)	38 (1.0) 226 (1.3)	38 (0.9) 224 (1.7)	33 (1.0) 214 (1.5)	31 (1.0) 215 (1.8)

The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500. The standard errors of the statistics appear in parentheses. It can be said with about 95 percent confidence that, for each population of interest, the value for the entire population is within ± 2 standard errors of the estimate for the sample. In comparing two estimates, one must use the standard error of the difference (see Appendix A for details). If the notation > (<) appears, it signifies that the value for public school students in 1994 was significantly higher (lower) than the value for 1992 at about the 95 percent confidence level. *** Sample size is insufficient to permit a reliable estimate.

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TABLE D8.6

Public School Students' Reports on the Amount of Time Spent Watching Television Each Day

	One Hour or Less		Two Hours		Three Hours	
	1992	1994	1992	1994	1992	1994
	Percentage and Proficiency					
TOTAL						
State	17 (0.9) 226 (1.9)	19 (1.0) 229 (2.0)	24 (1.0) 229 (1.4)	22 (0.9) 230 (1.7)	19 (0.9) 227 (1.9)	22 (0.8) 228 (1.7)
Nation	18 (0.8) 219 (1.9)	19 (0.7) 217 (2.2)	21 (0.9) 222 (1.6)	21 (0.6) 220 (1.4)	19 (0.7) 222 (1.3)	16 (0.5) < 219 (1.6)
RACE/ ETHNICITY						
White						
State	17 (1.0) 230 (1.9)	19 (1.1) 233 (2.0)	25 (1.2) 231 (1.4)	24 (1.0) 232 (1.7)	21 (0.8) 229 (2.0)	23 (0.8) 230 (1.7)
Nation	19 (1.1) 225 (2.2)	21 (1.0) 226 (2.1)	23 (1.2) 229 (1.6)	24 (0.7) 227 (1.5)	21 (1.0) 227 (1.5)	18 (0.7) 226 (1.8)
Black						
State	14 (2.8) *** (**.*)	11 (3.2) *** (**.*)	12 (2.6) *** (**.*)	8 (3.2) *** (**.*)	8 (3.1) *** (**.*)	7 (2.8) *** (**.*)
Nation	12 (1.4) 195 (4.0)	10 (1.0) 186 (4.2)	11 (1.0) 191 (3.7)	11 (1.0) 190 (4.0)	12 (1.2) 198 (4.9)	10 (1.0) 189 (3.6)
Hispanic						
State	12 (2.2) *** (**.*)	18 (3.4) *** (**.*)	22 (2.6) *** (**.*)	13 (2.8) *** (**.*)	14 (2.7) *** (**.*)	17 (3.1) *** (**.*)
Nation	16 (1.2) 198 (4.6)	19 (1.5) 187 (4.9)	20 (1.8) 204 (4.0)	16 (1.6) 190 (4.3)	14 (1.4) 204 (3.7)	14 (1.3) 198 (5.1)
TYPE OF LOCATION						
Central City						
State	18 (1.8) 225 (4.2)	20 (2.1) 228 (3.9)	21 (1.9) 229 (2.7)	20 (1.4) 227 (3.7)	17 (1.5) 228 (3.9)	18 (1.4) 229 (3.5)
Nation	17 (1.3) 210 (2.5)	17 (1.3) 210 (3.5)	17 (1.2) 213 (2.7)	19 (1.1) 214 (3.7)	17 (1.4) 216 (3.2)	16 (1.1) 212 (3.0)
Urb Frng/Lrg Town						
State	13 (1.7) 231 (3.9)	18 (1.4) 228 (3.8)	24 (1.9) 230 (2.2)	23 (1.7) 232 (2.8)	20 (1.7) 227 (2.6)	22 (1.7) 229 (3.0)
Nation	19 (1.6) 225 (4.1)	20 (1.2) 223 (3.8)	22 (1.4) 227 (2.7)	21 (0.9) 226 (2.1)	20 (1.2) 226 (2.2)	16 (0.6) 225 (2.2)
Rural/Small Town						
State	19 (1.4) 224 (2.6)	18 (1.6) 231 (2.8)	25 (1.8) 227 (2.7)	23 (1.5) 231 (2.4)	21 (1.3) 226 (3.4)	25 (0.9) 226 (2.5)
Nation	17 (1.4) 219 (2.5)	19 (1.3) 216 (2.8)	22 (1.3) 222 (2.2)	23 (1.6) 218 (3.2)	20 (1.4) 224 (2.7)	18 (1.1) 218 (2.2)

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TABLE D8.6 (continued)

Public School Students' Reports on the Amount of Time Spent Watching Television Each Day

	One Hour or Less		Two Hours		Three Hours	
	1992	1994	1992	1994	1992	1994
	Percentage and Proficiency					
PARENTS' EDUCATION						
College graduate						
State	19 (1.6) 237 (3.0)	23 (1.7) 241 (2.6)	26 (1.5) 235 (2.2)	25 (1.3) 237 (2.9)	20 (1.4) 235 (2.4)	21 (1.2) 233 (2.7)
Nation	20 (1.3) 231 (2.9)	21 (1.3) 232 (2.7)	22 (1.2) 230 (2.3)	22 (1.1) 229 (1.8)	19 (1.4) 231 (2.2)	17 (0.9) 229 (2.2)
Some ed after HS						
State	12 (1.9) *** (**.*)	15 (2.6) *** (**.*)	27 (3.0) 236 (3.6)	24 (3.7) *** (**.*)	21 (2.4) 232 (4.2)	18 (2.8) *** (**.*)
Nation	14 (1.9) 226 (5.1)	15 (2.0) 222 (6.2)	26 (2.5) 225 (4.3)	20 (2.2) 225 (3.9)	19 (2.0) 228 (3.4)	22 (2.3) 227 (3.9)
HS graduate						
State	17 (1.7) 222 (4.1)	14 (1.8) *** (**.*)	23 (2.1) 222 (3.6)	24 (2.6) 229 (3.4)	21 (2.4) 220 (4.2)	22 (2.3) 222 (4.6)
Nation	14 (1.5) 209 (4.3)	15 (1.5) 206 (4.1)	16 (1.9) 218 (4.0)	20 (1.5) 215 (3.7)	23 (2.1) 217 (3.3)	15 (1.5) 213 (3.3)
HS non-graduate						
State	19 (5.0) *** (**.*)	25 (4.5) *** (**.*)	16 (4.4) *** (**.*)	23 (4.8) *** (**.*)	16 (4.4) *** (**.*)	13 (3.8) *** (**.*)
Nation	15 (3.1) *** (**.*)	16 (2.7) *** (**.*)	17 (3.1) *** (**.*)	18 (2.9) *** (**.*)	19 (2.8) *** (**.*)	16 (2.6) *** (**.*)
I don't know						
State	16 (1.4) 216 (3.0)	16 (1.5) 213 (3.1)	22 (1.2) 223 (2.9)	18 (1.2) 222 (2.7)	18 (1.3) 221 (2.9)	24 (1.5) > 224 (2.4)
Nation	18 (0.9) 209 (2.6)	18 (0.9) 205 (2.4)	20 (1.3) 216 (2.0)	20 (1.0) 213 (2.3)	17 (1.0) 214 (2.3)	16 (0.8) 210 (3.1)
GENDER						
Male						
State	14 (1.1) 225 (2.8)	17 (1.4) 224 (2.9)	23 (1.3) 225 (1.7)	21 (1.4) 226 (2.1)	20 (1.1) 224 (2.2)	20 (1.1) 226 (2.3)
Nation	17 (1.0) 215 (2.6)	16 (0.8) 214 (3.1)	20 (1.1) 218 (2.1)	19 (0.8) 216 (1.9)	19 (1.0) 218 (1.8)	15 (0.6) < 213 (2.5)
Female						
State	20 (1.2) 226 (2.5)	21 (1.2) 233 (2.2)	25 (1.4) 231 (2.0)	23 (1.3) 233 (2.0)	19 (1.2) 230 (2.7)	23 (1.1) 229 (2.2)
Nation	19 (1.3) 223 (2.2)	21 (1.1) 221 (2.6)	22 (1.0) 226 (2.0)	22 (0.9) 224 (1.7)	19 (1.1) 226 (1.6)	17 (0.9) 225 (1.8)

The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500. The standard errors of the statistics appear in parentheses. It can be said with about 95 percent confidence that, for each population of interest, the value for the entire population is within ± 2 standard errors of the estimate for the sample. In comparing two estimates, one must use the standard error of the difference (see Appendix A for details). If the notation > (<) appears, it signifies that the value for public school students in 1994 was significantly higher (lower) than the value for 1992 at about the 95 percent confidence level. *** Sample size is insufficient to permit a reliable estimate.

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TABLE D8.6 (continued)

Public School Students' Reports on the Amount of Time Spent Watching Television Each Day

	Four to Five Hours		Six Hours or More	
	1992	1994	1992	1994
	Percentage and Proficiency			
TOTAL				
State	24 (0.8) 224 (1.3)	24 (1.1) 221 (1.7)	16 (1.0) 210 (2.0)	14 (1.0) 209 (2.1)
Nation	22 (0.9) 215 (1.5)	22 (0.8) 215 (1.8)	21 (0.8) 198 (1.7)	22 (0.7) 193 (1.6)
RACE/ ETHNICITY				
White				
State	24 (0.9) 226 (1.5)	23 (1.1) 226 (1.5)	13 (1.0) 216 (2.7)	12 (1.0) 215 (2.5)
Nation	22 (1.0) 221 (1.9)	22 (1.0) 224 (2.0)	14 (0.9) 207 (2.9)	15 (0.9) 206 (2.4)
Black				
State	22 (3.9) *** (**.*)	35 (4.4) *** (**.*)	43 (4.3) 196 (3.8)!	38 (4.1) *** (**.*)
Nation	19 (1.4) 197 (2.7)	21 (1.8) 190 (3.7)	45 (1.9) 188 (2.4)	47 (1.8) 182 (2.1)
Hispanic				
State	25 (3.2) *** (**.*)	26 (3.3) *** (**.*)	27 (4.0) *** (**.*)	25 (3.2) *** (**.*)
Nation	21 (1.6) 200 (3.1)	23 (1.5) 195 (4.6)	28 (1.8) 193 (3.7)	28 (1.6) 177 (3.2) <
TYPE OF LOCATION				
Central City				
State	24 (1.5) 223 (2.5)	24 (1.7) 216 (3.3)	20 (1.9) 204 (3.0)	18 (2.1) 205 (3.8)
Nation	22 (1.2) 210 (2.2)	22 (1.3) 206 (3.2)	26 (1.3) 193 (2.1)	27 (1.9) 184 (2.6)
Urb Frng/Lrg Town				
State	26 (1.4) 224 (2.1)	25 (2.0) 223 (2.6)	17 (2.2) 213 (4.0)	11 (1.7) 209 (3.7)!
Nation	21 (1.4) 217 (2.4)	22 (1.0) 221 (2.4)	18 (1.2) 199 (2.8)	21 (1.2) 201 (2.3)
Rural/Small Town				
State	23 (1.5) 224 (2.4)	22 (1.9) 225 (2.5)	13 (1.5) 215 (4.2)	12 (1.1) 214 (4.0)
Nation	22 (1.0) 217 (2.9)	22 (1.6) 219 (3.8)	19 (2.0) 203 (4.7)	16 (1.9) 194 (3.1)

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TABLE D8.6 (continued)

Public School Students' Reports on the Amount of Time Spent Watching Television Each Day

	Four to Five Hours		Six Hours or More	
	1992	1994	1992	1994
	Percentage and Proficiency			
PARENTS' EDUCATION				
College graduate				
State	21 (1.8) 227 (2.2)	20 (1.5) 228 (3.7)	14 (1.4) 217 (3.1)	11 (1.3) 213 (3.7)
Nation	19 (1.0) 221 (2.6)	21 (1.1) 221 (2.6)	19 (1.2) 201 (2.4)	19 (0.9) 199 (2.0)
Some ed after HS				
State	30 (3.1) 235 (3.0)	30 (3.4) *** (**.*)	11 (2.0) *** (**.*)	14 (2.3) *** (**.*)
Nation	24 (2.3) 225 (4.1)	25 (2.6) 228 (3.8)	18 (2.3) 201 (3.9)	19 (1.8) 204 (5.0)
HS graduate				
State	25 (2.0) 222 (3.2)	27 (2.9) 221 (2.9)	14 (2.2) 206 (4.3)	13 (1.7) *** (**.*)
Nation	28 (1.9) 212 (3.0)	24 (1.8) 211 (4.2)	19 (1.9) 196 (4.0)	26 (1.7) 192 (3.7)
HS non-graduate				
State	28 (5.3) *** (**.*)	15 (4.0) *** (**.*)	22 (5.4) *** (**.*)	23 (4.3) *** (**.*)
Nation	18 (2.7) *** (**.*)	23 (2.6) *** (**.*)	31 (3.8) 190 (5.2)	27 (2.7) 179 (8.9)
I don't know				
State	24 (1.5) 218 (2.5)	26 (1.7) 217 (2.1)	20 (1.5) 206 (2.5)	16 (1.7) 203 (3.4)
Nation	22 (1.4) 210 (2.0)	22 (1.2) 210 (2.2)	22 (1.0) 196 (2.2)	24 (1.1) 188 (2.5)
GENDER				
Male				
State	25 (1.2) 220 (1.6)	25 (1.6) 220 (2.0)	19 (1.2) 211 (2.8)	16 (1.5) 208 (2.5)
Nation	22 (1.0) 213 (1.8)	23 (1.0) 210 (2.1)	22 (1.0) 195 (1.9)	26 (1.0) > 190 (2.0)
Female				
State	23 (1.3) 228 (1.7)	22 (1.3) 223 (2.5)	14 (1.1) 210 (2.4)	12 (1.0) 210 (3.3)
Nation	21 (1.2) 218 (1.9)	21 (1.1) 221 (2.3)	19 (1.0) 201 (2.3)	18 (0.9) 197 (2.2)

The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500. The standard errors of the statistics appear in parentheses. It can be said with about 95 percent confidence that, for each population of interest, the value for the entire population is within ± 2 standard errors of the estimate for the sample. In comparing two estimates, one must use the standard error of the difference (see Appendix A for details). If the notation > (<) appears, it signifies that the value for public school students in 1994 was significantly higher (lower) than the value for 1992 at about the 95 percent confidence level. ! Interpret with caution — the nature of the sample does not allow accurate determination of the variability of this statistic. *** Sample size is insufficient to permit a reliable estimate.

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A very special thank you is due to the many individuals who provided invaluable assistance in the production of this report. Literally a cast of thousands was involved in the development, administration, scoring, analysis, writing, reviewing, and reporting of the 1994 Trial State Assessment in reading. These individuals contributed their expertise, energy, and creativity to help make the NAEP reading assessment a success. Most importantly, NAEP is grateful to the students and school staff who participated in the Trial State Assessment.

The design, development, analysis, and reporting of the 1994 Trial State Assessment was a continuation of the collaborative effort that began in 1989 among staff from State Education Agencies, the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), Educational Testing Service (ETS), Westat, and National Computer Systems (NCS). The Trial State Assessment Program continued to benefit from the contributions of hundreds of individuals at the state and local levels — governors, chief state school officers, state and district test directors, state coordinators, and district administrators — who provided their wisdom, experience, and hard work.

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The NAEP project at ETS is directed by Paul Williams and resides in the Center for the Assessment of Educational Progress (CAEP) managed by Archie Lapointe and Paul Williams. Steve Lazer managed the test development activities, and Jay Campbell and Patricia Donahue worked with the Reading Item Development committee to develop the assessment instruments. John Barone managed the data analysis activities; Jules Goodison and John Olson, the operational aspects; Clyde Reese and Karen Miller, reporting activities; and John Olson, state services and technical assistance. Statistical and psychometric activities were led by John Mazzeo, with consultation from Eugene Johnson. Sampling and data collection activities were carried out by Westat under the direction of Renee Slobasky, Keith Rust, and Nancy Caldwell. Printing, distribution, scoring, and processing activities were conducted by NCS, under the supervision of John O'Neill, Judy Moyer, Mathilde Kennel, Lavonne Mohn, Brad Thayer, and Dianne Smrdel.

The large number of states and territories participating in the Trial State Assessment provided many challenges, including the need to develop different reports that are customized for each of the participating jurisdictions based on its characteristics and the results of its assessed students. To meet this challenge, a computerized report-generation system was employed that created text, tables, and graphics for each jurisdiction's unique report. This system, created by Jennifer Nelson, was designed to take advantage of mainframe computer speed and accuracy for the data computations, interfaced with high-quality text formatting and graphical output procedures. Laura Jerry led the computer-based development of the reading report. John Mazzeo and Nancy Allen oversaw the analyses for the reports, with significant input from Steve Isham. James Carlson, Hua Hua Chang, John Donoghue, John Ferris, David Freund, Frank Jenkins, Bruce Kaplan, Edward Kulick, Phillip Leung, Jo-lin Liang, Eiji Muraki, Craig Pizzuti and Spencer Swinton collaborated to generate the data, conduct the analyses, and check the results. Al Rogers developed and generated the maps.

Stephen Koffler, Jay Campbell, and John Mazzeo wrote the text for the report. Laura Jerry and Karen Miller coordinated the quality control and checking of the reports. Mary Michaels and Sharon Johnson were responsible for coordinating the cover design and final production of the reports. Finally, a special thanks is also due to the numerous reviewers, internal and external, who suggested improvements to the reports, and the individuals who thoroughly checked the data, text, tables, and maps.

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